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SERIOUS POLICE DISCONTENT
Odd Offer To Home-Trained Officers

Premier
Warns
China

Nanking, Feb. 5.
Without price control and currency reforms, China cannot hope to stabilise this year's budget, Premier Chang Chun told members of the Legislative Yuan in the last session of this body before its dissolution in March.

The Premier indicated that military expenditures and increases in living allowances for Government servants were the heaviest burden on the national exchequer. Appropriations for agriculture, water conservancy and communications had been cut in an effort to tighten expenditures, Premier Chang said.

He estimated the budget deficit for the first six months of the present year to total nearly 100 billion, in spite of the fact that revenues for the same period would be nearly ten times higher than last year.

Mr. O. K. Yu, Finance Minister, admitted that the Chinese Government has failed to expropriate Chinese private holdings in the United States, declaring that it now remains a "hard diplomatic nut to crack."

In spite of prolonged negotiations, he said, the United States is maintaining the stand that under the existing law, the administration has no right to interfere in business and banking practices.—Reuter-AAP.

Shanghai
Utility
Rates Up

Shanghai, Feb. 5.
A general all-round increase in utility rates and prices of commodities greeted Shanghai-landers when they woke up this morning with the charges for lighting, water, telephone and gas, hiked between 20 and 30 per cent.

The price of rice, meanwhile, stands at an all-time peak of CN\$1,600,000 for a picul of 120 lb.

Financial circles are reported to have warned the authorities of more economic disturbances within the next two weeks if no precautionary measures are taken.

The rapid climb of rice quotations is said to be due to the large-scale purchases of rice stocks here by export dealers.

The Central Bank yesterday decided to restrict the cash amount carried by southbound air and steam passengers to CN\$200,000,000.—Reuter.

Russia An Expanding
Imperialist Power

Lake Success, Feb. 5.
Britain charged today that Russian activity in Eastern Europe made the Soviet Union an "expanding imperialist power." Russia immediately called the British accusation a "monstrous falsehood."

Christopher P. Mayhew, special British delegate to the U.N. Economic and Social Council, made the charge during a reply to what he said was, by implication, an attack on the British Commonwealth of Nations by Soviet delegate Anastas A. Arutunian.

M. Arutunian, during a debate on a Social Commission report recommending study of living standards in under-developed areas, had urged inclusion of non self-governing territories, and said:

"Here in this room, we must be brave enough to state that on the metropolitan power and the backwardness of colonies lies the ruling power."

Mr. Mayhew replied, saying that non self-governing territories of the British Commonwealth "are open for all to see... that, of course, is not true of the Soviet Union, large parts of which our Soviet colleague admitted, are under-developed."

"Recent developments in Eastern Europe have made it necessary to rank Soviet Russia as an expanding imperialist power."—Associated Press.

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"Kwang Tung" Inquiry.

"Probationers For
Three Years"

A spirit of discontent is permeating the rank and file of the European Police in the Colony as the result of a circular issued by the Establishment Office, Colonial Secretariat, anent the recommendations made by the Salaries Commission.

The general opinion among the "United Kingdom" contingent appears to be that they have been brought out here "under false pretences."

"When recruiting was in progress at Home in 1945," said several of these officers, "a very nice picture was painted for us. We were promised, practically the kingdom of heaven. Now, we are being given the kingdom of Old Man Neck."

"The most iniquitous situation has been created by Paragraph 4 (1) of the circular," declared one officer to the "China Mail." "The main paragraph refers to officers who were engaged on a five year agreement in 1945 or later, which means all U.K. men."

"In this paragraph, we are given the option of remaining on our present terms of service as set out in our original agreement 'until that agreement expires or is otherwise determined' or accepting a fresh agreement."

"If we accept the fresh terms of service," he went on, "we will be placed on probation, from Jan. 1, 1947, for a period of three years from the date of our arrival here."

"The funny part about this is that among our crowd are many specialists and men who have had several years' service with their Home town constabulary."

Absurd

It is absurd that men who are entrusted with responsible positions, such as the Fingerprints Department and Police Courts, and men who have been policemen for years, should be classified as Probationary Sub-Inspectors.

"And," he went on, "can it be other than unfair that these same men should be ranked lower than local Sub-Inspectors who, after six months' probation, are put on substantive rank?"

"After all, sheer common sense will say that a man with 'six years' experience in the force (at Home) is a better man than one with 12 months' service."

When the "China Mail" reporter commented that if an officer does not like the new terms he can continue with his original agreement, the informant said, "quite, but, to quote the circular, only 'until that agreement expires or is otherwise determined'."

"And sub-para (VII) leaving no doubt whatever that our employment will not be continued."

FILM STARS
'PERSECUTORS'

Budapest, Feb. 4.
Films featuring Clark Gable, Ginger Rogers or Barbara Stanwyck will be banned in Hungary after Feb. 12, the Ministry of the Interior announced today.

A Ministry spokesman commenting on the decree alleged that these film actors and actresses were representatives of American reaction and took part in the persecution of progressive thinking actors and film producers.—Reuter.

Colossal
Seas In
Atlantic

New York, Feb. 4.
The Queen Mary arrived in New York today 48 hours late after a voyage which her skipper described as "one of the worst I have known in 40 years."

The liner docked in a snow storm but the 1,280 crew and 350 dockworkers immediately began the task of turning the giant round by 5 a.m. GMT to morrow, which would make a record turn around of only 17 hours.

The Queen Mary's master, Commodore Illingworth, said the vessel met "colossal" seas with winds of near hurricane force and he had to slow down the on three successive days.

The voyage, which usually takes five days, this time occupied nearly seven and the liner's usual average of 28 knots fell to 19.37 knots.—Reuter.

Ingenious Soviet
Theory On Gandhi

Moscow, Feb. 4.
Professor Zvavich, one of Russia's leading authorities on Britain, declared in the Soviet Literary Gazette today that Mr. Gandhi's death was "needed by the British imperialists as proof of their 'correctness'."

The article, which was the first direct comment in the Soviet press on Mr. Gandhi's death, added: "They evidently are using this for further investigation of internecine warfare in India. The progressive press of many countries, not without grounds, expresses the supposition that the hand of the murderer was directed by British spies of the intelligence service."

"Now over the body of Gandhi the parasites 'blaspheme'." Professor Zvavich said. "The socialist-imperialist Morgan Phillips (Secretary General of the British Labour Party) dares to state the Labour Party fulfilled the wishes of Gandhi when it passed the plan-splitting India; but it should not be forgotten that Amle, Bevin and Cripps were all members of that Cabinet which held Gandhi in prison—and we cannot give a single statement by Gandhi in favour of the Labour variant of imperialism."

"Leon Blum is as good as Phillips," he stated. "He had a common ideal with Gandhi. This ideal permitted Blum and his party who were in the Government to imprison the President of the Vietnam (Indo-Chinese Nationalist movement) delegation in Paris and send troops to pacify Madagascar."

The article continued: "Blum and Phillips are silent on the main point of Gandhi's activity—his struggle against imperialism."

"The death of Gandhi is a great loss to the Indian people. The best people of India will gather together in the struggle against the common enemy, against the imperialism of Amle and Bevin, who do not wish to consider the strivings of colonial people for freedom and independence."—Reuter.

Mr. Philip K. C. Tyan, adviser of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said today there is no truth in Chinese press reports that he will succeed Mr. T. W. Kwok as Special Commissioner of Foreign Affairs for Kwangtung and Kwansi.

"I expect to return to Nanking in a few days," Mr. Tyan said. "I am here on leave."

When I said goodbye to Foreign Minister Wang Shih-chieh, he requested me to look into the Shamen incident when I was in Canton. I came to Canton essentially on a personal trip."

Mr. Tyan said he had a "fairly clear picture" of the "Shamen fire." He declined to reveal his findings.

He was the predecessor of Mr. Kwok as Special Commissioner of Foreign Affairs from 1930 to 1941. He took up the Kowloon City issue with the Hong Kong Government through the British Consulate-General in Canton during 1930-1937, when compensation was paid to the Kowloon City residents and alternate sites in Hong Kong were given them.—Associated Press.

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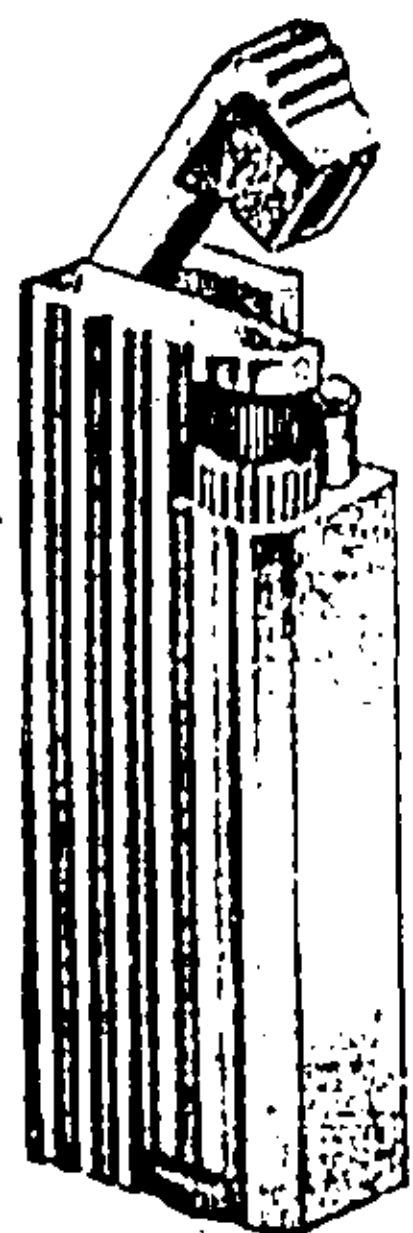
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(FROM SHANGHAI)

"FOREIGN GOVERNMENT HAS NO LOCUS STANDI"

"The Man Who Came To Dinner"

I left the Missions to Seamen
dinner last night convinced on one
point. That, putting aside its Shaw,
Coward, Priestley and the like, the
Stage Club can be extraordinarily ef-
ficient in organizing a play that can
call a large audience and save em-
barrassment all round. To illustrate
this, the club's production, "The
Man Who Came to Dinner."

The comedy is a typical example
of American relaxation and fun. It
is straightforward in its aim, unpre-
tentious in style, vulgar enough to be
amusing, yet not so much that it can-
not be repeated.

The star of the evening, in my
judgment, shone from the per-
formance of Betty Middleton playing
the mentally deranged Harriet
Stanley who in youth, had an irre-
pressible passion for necking with the
women's axe, Grant McVane also
merited a good share of the evening's
laurels. His impersonation was dis-
tinct, comical and charming, and all
with the utmost ease.

Chiffoad Davies, presented what
was expected of him. He was loudly
applauded but perhaps this was the
first time the audience was seeing
the actor. Miss Deane's style and
attitude will no doubt inspire
Claudia and the Shopping News. But
let us like what we have seen. With-
out going into further detail, the
show should indicate what the Stage
Club's latest effort has to offer. The
cast is too large for detailed com-
ment but all contribute to a delight-
ful evening. —Kimberley.

Rent Case Withdrawn

Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr yester-
day complied with a request for
a withdrawal by De-Inspector
C. T. Byron, S.C.A. of rent
summonses against Chan King-
hi and Wan Kwok-man, de-
rivative landlords, at Kow-
loon Magistracy, and adjourned
proceedings until Feb. 9.

Inspector Byron asked to
withdraw 13 of the 15 sum-
monses on the ground that the
Tenancy Ordinance was enforced
after the dates the summonses
were taken out against de-
fendants.

Mr. A. S. C. Comber, for the
defence, pleaded guilty to the
two standing summonses.

An adjournment was made to
enable both parties to settle
differences over the rents pay-
able on the ground floor of the
building concerned.

Consul General Harim A.
Boucher is on sick leave and
will leave in the next available
steamer for the United States.

He will be accompanied by
Mrs. Boucher, their son Frank
and daughter Stella. He came
here last summer on the same
plane with Lieut. Gen. Albert
C. Wedemeyer on his fact-finding
mission.

The American Consulate-
General will be temporarily in
charge of Consul Gordon Lee
Burke.—Associated Press.

The wedding of Mr. Frank
Noble Hill, Principal Officer,
Stanley Prison, and Miss
Fatima Abbas, Principal
Wardress, Lai Chi Kok Prison,
took place at the Supreme
Court Registry yesterday in the
presence of Mr. L. J. McTavish
and Mrs. H. Abbas.

The forthcoming wedding of
Mr. Raymond Baerga, seaman,
to Miss Guadalupe Madruga of
28 Austin Road, has been
announced.

Peninsula Hotel arrivals:—M.
Durutti, R. Miller, Miss D.P.
Hamblin and D.E. Bosworth.

Peninsula departures:—Mr. and
Mrs. C. Mortensen, Mr. and Mrs.
K. Lund, Mr. and Mrs. C. R.
Elton, A.D. Bennett, B.T.W. Ste-
wart, P.J. Sullivan, Mrs. J. L.
Miers and J.H.L. Turner.

Reminders

Official opening of Kowloon Ho-
tel Club, Peninsula Hotel,
12.30 p.m.

Stage Club presents "The Man
Who Came to Dinner," at
Missions to Seamen Theatre,
8.30 p.m.

Scottish Dancing, European
YMCA, 8 p.m.

Coming Events
TOMORROW

Cosmo Club Chinese New Year
Dance

H.K. Football Referees Associ-
ation Dinner, Luk Kwok
Hotel, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

Soccer, Danish v. Norwegians,
Happy Valley.

Strong objection to Mr. R. Sin representing the
Chinese Government appearing for the pro-
secution in the case of Hsu Chi-chweng, want-
ed by the Chinese Government for alleged
commission of a crime in China, was lodged by
Mr. M. A. da Silva at Central Magistracy yes-
terday before Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

Mr. Silva said: "I would like
to bring to your attention two
Hong Kong Law reports which
show that a foreign government
has no locus standi." He referred
to the case of Rex v. Wong
Ka-chun, in which it was held
that the Chinese Government
had no locus standi and said
that in the case of Lu Yut-mui
the point was made very clear,
where it was held that a foreign
government had no locus standi.

Mr. Silva said that he would
like to bring this to the atten-
tion of the court by reason of
the fact that Mr. Sin himself
had more than once stated that
he was representing the Chinese
Government.

Mr. Silva said that it was over
two weeks since the prisoner was
arrested and had been in
custody.

To support his arguments,
Mr. Silva quoted from Hong
Kong Law Reports of the case
Rex v. Wong Ka-chun and said
in part:

"Extradition
"But the hypothesis of ex-
tradition is that there has been
no such breach; but on the con-
trary, an alleged breach of the
law of the foreign country.

"Neither by statute, rule of
court, nor principle, can I see
that the foreign Government has
any locus standi in extradition
proceedings.

"If it were otherwise we
should find ourselves in this un-
pleasant dilemma; either the
British Government would stand
aside, which would not be in
conformity with the Ordinance,
and allow the conduct of the
proceedings to be in the hands
of the foreign Government, which
the Ordinance does not con-
template, or both the British and
the foreign Governments would
appear, in which case there
might be a conflict of opinion
between them; a conflict which
might involve the interpretation
of the Treaty obligations as be-
tween the Governments and thus
questions essentially diplomatic
might be raised before the
Courts."

Continuing, Mr. Silva referred
to Hong Kong Law Reports in
the case of Rex v. Li Yu-mui in
which it was laid down that the
most that could be said was
that a practice had grown up
of allowing the foreign Govern-
ment to appear and that it had
never been challenged and there-
fore never been considered by
the Courts.

The practice seemed to be en-
tirely contrary to the fundamen-
tal ideas of extradition.

The English extradition pro-
ceedings were in aid of the
foreign criminal proceedings;
they were instituted by the
English Government at the re-
quest of the foreign Govern-
ment.

No Voice
On this mere statement of
the case it appeared clear that
the foreign Government ceased
to have any voice in the matter,
otherwise than diplomatic.

Sequel To Attack On Woman Hiker

Committal proceedings were begun yesterday at
Central Magistracy before Mr. J. G. Conklin
in the case in which Chan On, Wan Kam-cho
and Cheung Ping-kwan are charged with hav-
ing robbed Miss Ramona Maher of a watch at
Jardine Hill on Nov. 23.

S.I. MacPherson said that
Miss Maher, Mercia Rocha and
S. Delgado were on the hillside
near the reservoir above Min-
Yuen.

At 11.45 a.m. they were at-
tacked by four men. One at-
tacked Miss Maher, pushed her
to the ground and took her
watch.

Miss Rocha attempted to run
away but was pulled back by
second, accused who forced her
to sit down. The third attacked
S. Delgado, took his walking
stick and hit him with it.

Other members of the party
who were near came to the as-
sistance of their friends and the
robbers made off.

A report was made to the
Police and the whole area cor-
dooned off.

Scratches On Face
At 3.30 p.m. that afternoon, a
constable saw second defendant
coming out of the ruined Bay
View Police Station. He had
scratches all over his face. He
could not give the constable a
satisfactory answer and was
taken to the Police station.

There he was recognised by
Miss Maher, who was still in
the Station.

On Nov. 26, police went to
the hillside near Rosary Hill
and there arrested the other two
defendants in a cave. All admit-
ted that they had taken part in
the robbery. The third accused
had a damaged ankle and was
sent to Queen Mary Hospital.

Hearing was adjourned after
several witnesses had given
evidence.

Wedding

Ombler-Moss

A charming wedding took
place at St. John's Cathedral
yesterday afternoon when Miss
June Gloria Moss, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. A. J. R. Moss,
became the bride of Mr. Stanley
Abbot Ombler, son of Mr. and
Mrs. A. Ombler, of Dunedin,
New Zealand.

The bride, who entered the
church on the arm of her
father, wore a beautiful full
length gown of white slipper
satin cut on princess lines
with a full circular train de-
corated with pearls. Her hand-
embroidered tulle veil was held
in place by a wreath of orange
blossoms. The gown was
brought specially for the
occasion from Australia.

Attending the bride were
Miss Joan MacFayden and
Miss Shirley Galtrop, both in
gowns of old gold tulle de-
signed with full skirt and a
bustle effect. They carried
posies of old gold chry-
santhemums.

Mrs. Moss, who acted as
Matron of Honour, wore a dress
of Elizabeth-blue crepe with a
blue and silver lame collar hat
with and shoes to tone.

The duties of bestman were
discharged by Mr. L. C.
Norden, of Canton.

A reception was held at the
Hong Kong Club Annex after
which the newly-weds left for
their honeymoon in Formosa.
Mrs. Ombler chose for her go-
ing away dress a smart outfit
in jade green with black and
green accessories.

The bride's wedding day
coincides with the silver wed-
ding anniversary of her parents.
for the defence and he made
no objection.

The hearing was adjourned
to Feb. 18, when further argu-
ment will be heard on this point
and the question of bail will be
considered.

Body Found Trussed Up Like A Chicken

Murder by a person or persons unknown was the
verdict at an inquest at Kowloon Magistracy
yesterday into the death of an unknown Chin-
ese male who was found "trussed up like a
chicken" on Nov. 28, 1947, 250 yards south of
Frontier Road, a quarter mile from San Uk-
ling Village, Chinese territory.

Mr. W. H. Lattimer sat as
coroner while DSI Wall conduct-
ed the case.

Sub-Inspector T. Wheeler said
that on receiving information he
found the body under a pile of
rice stalks. The face was dis-
coloured and the clothing fresh.
A rope was looped tightly round
the neck and the face appeared
to have been hit with some heavy
instrument.

He was of the opinion that
the man was murdered.

Dr. R. E. Alvarez said that
his post-mortem examination on
the following day revealed that
the man had died of asphyxia
brought about by strangulation
and there were appearances con-
sistent with homicide.

Dr. Alvarez said that rigor
mortis had passed off and death
had occurred 36 hours before.

Visibly Nervous
A 61-year-old woman, Pang
Kan, who was visibly nervous
when recalling the incident, said
that she visited the paddy fields
near San Uk-ling at 10 a.m. that
day to collect hay.

Near a path in a part where
the land was barren, witness
said she saw a pile of rice
stalks. It being unusual she
went to investigate, and found
two legs protruding.

The man was a stranger to
her, and she had not been to the
place for five or six days before
the event.

Other witnesses gave cor-
roborative evidence.

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COMMISSIONER OF POLICE REPLIES TO CRITICISM

NEW AMBULANCE IN HONG KONG

The new ambulance service in Hong Kong which has been organised by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, will go into action for the first time on Saturday morning.

It will be available day and night and can be obtained by ringing Telephone 26003.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade's service in Kowloon, which has now been operating for some time, can be obtained by ringing Tel. 50000.

Amazing Antics Of A Lorry

A lorry driver's experience last Wednesday afternoon was a hair-raising and miraculous tale, as told by Traffic Sub-Inspector E. Roberts at Kowloon Magistrate's Court yesterday when Yip Woon, appeared before Mr. Blair Kerr charged with dangerous driving.

Yip was travelling from Kowloon towards Causeway Road when, near the Hong Kong Brewery, he rounded a bend at "traffic" speed. He lost control and his vehicle careered off the road, climbed 20 feet up an incline and stuck and back onto the road. On the road was a heavy lorry.

The lorry suffered extensive damage, but Yip escaped unscathed.

Yip, with the previous traffic conviction against him, was fined \$250 and his licence suspended for 12 months.

Not so thrilling was the story of Liu Yung-shing, driver of lorry No. 5122, who was charged with dangerous driving.

TSI Chan told the Court that Mr. J. Barrow, District Officer, was driving along Causeway Road towards Kowloon when near the railway crossing at Shatin a lorry approached at a fast speed. It rounded the bend on the wrong side and Mr. Barrow had to brake abruptly to avoid a collision. The lorry sped away.

Defendant, who had two years' driving experience, was fined \$150 and had his licence suspended for three months.

"Warning Letters" Explained

Replying yesterday to criticisms of the system whereby public hire vehicles can be ordered off the roads by the Commissioner of Police for infringement of traffic regulations, without resort to the courts, a traffic official explained: "This action is only taken in respect of certain specified offences, as set out in a warning letter which was issued to these people in June last year."

The warning letter sent out at that time reads: "With regard to the taxis (public cars) licensed by you I am directed to warn you that no towing (by hire or otherwise) is permitted, and that you will be held responsible for the behaviour of the drivers in your employment."

"I have to draw your attention to the following Traffic Regulations: (Reg. 16). A driver of a public vehicle shall when disengaged, as if the vehicle is a taxicab, rickshaw, passenger, bicycle, or chair, take the vehicle to a place of accommodation, therefor approved by the Commissioner of Police."

"A driver of a public vehicle shall not solicit passengers, either in any way so as to cause obstruction, leave a public stand to accept hire out of time, or the licence of a vehicle shall be liable to be suspended for the offence of soliciting passengers. The practice of waiting outside places of public entertainment is far too prevalent and is the cause of serious obstruction in the streets today. The licence of a vehicle found acting contrary to the warning above will be liable to immediate suspension."

In fact, three warnings for these offences are, in practice, given.

Given Option

Moreover, when warning is given, the owner or drivers are given the option of having their case heard in court or accepting the warning letters, which is the choice of 25 per cent of offenders today.

European Seamen Charged

Three European seamen appeared in the dock at Kowloon Magistrate's Court yesterday before Mr. Latimer, charged with stealing 15 bags of sugar, property of the Government, aboard the MV Kiele Mar on Feb. 1.

With them were three Chinese, police watchmen charged with aiding and abetting.

Theodore Davis, 22, Peter Iron, 18, W. Henry Grove, 35, Chan Cheung, 39, Ip Ping, 22, and Chan Loi, 24, were all remanded 24 hours in police custody.

They pleaded not guilty.

Nurses War Memorial Fund Appeal

An appeal has been made for support for the British Empire Nurses War Memorial Fund.

The Fund, under the patronage of the Queen, hopes to raise £250,000 to furnish a Memorial Chapel in Westminster Abbey and to establish Memorial Travelling Scholarships for post-graduate study for nurses and midwives of the Commonwealth and Empire.

Donations should be sent to the British Empire Nurses War Memorial Fund, 12 Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Obituary

H.B.B. Hancock

Mr. H. B. B. ("Dick") Hancock, the well known Hong Kong cricketer and sportsman, who would have reached the age of 73 in April, has died at his home "Stockwood," Crawley Hill, Camberley, Surrey.

Educated at Charterhouse, Mr. Hancock arrived in Hong Kong over 50 years ago, and played Interport cricket for Hong Kong from the 90's. He was President of the Hong Kong Cricket Club from 1922 until 1947 when he retired from the presidency at the last annual meeting as he did not plan to return to the Colony from England.

Mr. Hancock, who was interned in Stanley during the occupation together with his wife, left in the "Oxfordshire" in September 1945 via New Zealand and Australia. He was at that time a sick man.

A fellow sportsman said of him yesterday: "Mr. Hancock was one of the finest cricketers that the Club ever had and also one of the finest Captains. He did a tremendous lot to encourage young fellows in cricket, and was always ready to give them useful hints. He was a very fine batsman but in his younger days he used to bowl."

"He was also a very fine tennis player, and he and his brother Harry were the Champion Doubles players at the beginning of the century. Mr. Hancock was an all round keen sportsman as well as being a very popular, charming and 'good old English type of gentleman.' He became well known as Captain of the Hong Kong Interport Cricket team, and he was a life member of the club."

Mr. Hancock was at one time interested in the stock market in Hong Kong. He was past president of St. George's Society, of which he was always a keen supporter.

TRIED TO GET OUT OF GAOL

Wong Ngau was given another 12 months by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central Magistrate's Court yesterday, when he pleaded guilty to a charge of attempting to escape from prison.

Inspector Moran said that accused was sentenced to a long term. The officer, in charge of the home saw him with a iron bar trying to force a window. He had loosened some bricks of the window. He had managed to escape from his cell by removing a bar and was trying to get out of the second when he was seen.

R.N. DOCKYARD STAFF REDUCTIONS

A statement on what was described as the "temporary reduction" of Naval Dockyard employment was issued by the Government spokesman yesterday.

The statement says:— "As is well known reductions have occurred recently in the size of the British Pacific Fleet. These have been in pursuance of the policy stated in Parliament last autumn which required a temporary reduction in the numbers of ships to be kept in full commission in the Royal Navy as a whole, in order to allow release from the service to be speeded up."

"At the time it was pointed out that this situation should be regarded as a temporary one and that expansion would commence as soon as the manpower situation permitted."

"The inevitable effect of this policy, as to reduce, temporarily, the number of ships of the British Pacific Fleet that require to be refitted and maintained at Hong Kong and hence a reduction of the work of the Naval Dockyard."

"While the immediate effect on the dockyard work was not great as a certain back log of repairs had to be made up, the time is now approaching when it will not be possible to continue to use the full numbers of workmen that have been employed during the last few months."

"At the present time it is not possible to look very far ahead, but based on the foreseeable commitments of the Naval Dockyard over the next few months, it is likely that reductions up to an overall percentage of 15% will have to be made by the end of March 1948, followed by a further 20% reduction (approximately) by the end of June."

Made Fairly

"Recently the Commodore held a meeting with representatives of the Naval Yard Chinese Workers' Association, and informed them, with regret, of this situation. He also informed them that discharges would be made fairly and after full consideration of all relevant facts of service, efficiency, and character, and that those discharged now would be given preference for re-employment in any future expansion if they applied and had satisfactory credentials."

"Beyond June 1948 no forecast can be made, but it is expected to have reached more or less stable numbers by then, and hoped that when the British Pacific Fleet once more expands, it may prove possible to increase Naval Dockyard employment again."

Gun Club Hill Party A Success

Despite a continuous drizzle throughout the afternoon the New Year Party for Chinese mothers and children given yesterday at Gun Club Hill Sports Field was a huge success.

The success was due to the hard work put into the party by officers and men of 25 Field Regt., R. A. under Col. Bearie who entertained the children for three hours with jeep rides, pony rides, slides, see-saws, breaches, buoys, davy and sports. The party was organised by Mrs. G.S.P. Heywood on behalf of the H.K. N.S.P.C.

Not only were the children and mothers entertained but they were fed and given toys, chopsticks, clothing and candles. The party was made possible by the generosity of Sir Robert Ho Tung, Sir Robert Kotewell, Messrs. R. Lee, F. Barry, Leo d'Almada K. C. A. Choy, C.E. Terry, A.K. Dimond, T.H. Wilson, Eldon Potter K.C. A.V. Young, Lau Tak Po, F.C. Nigel, F.H. Laseby, Tsun Yung, G. Haigh, T.H.G. Brayfield, Messrs. Garland, Walters and Lane Crawford's Ltd., Dairy Farm, Baby Shop, Toy Shop (Kowloon), Cheong Hing, Tai Wo and many others. The clown (Mr. Curtis) was from H.M.S. Tamar while music was provided by Petty Officer Gold from H.M.S. "Sussex" (by kind permission of Admiral Oliver).

The children present were those who could not afford to buy any extra comforts for the Chinese New Year Celebrations. The majority were beggars, shoe shine boys and street sleepers.

Washington, Feb. 4. Italy is reported to have suggested informally to the United States that it would be politically smart to ease up on visits of American warships to Italian ports.—Associated Press.

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Those wishing to take advantage of this arrangement are advised to place their orders without delay and so avoid disappointment.

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for sportswear, suit or topcoat
at Bond Street W.I. Clothes and
accessories of distinction. Suite
302, Hong Kong Hotel. Tel.
30281, Ext. 302.

BOND STREET W.I. - TERTIUM
FOR TOWN TRAVEL AND
SPORTSWEAR. GENUINE
THE IDEAL MEN'S TROPICAL
WOOLSTED LINEN - ALL
WOOL. WOOLSTED SUITING
LINEN IN CHARACTER - NON-
CREASING AND POROUS UN-
EQUALED COMFORT IN WEAR.
NETTING TWEED - MEN'S AND
WOMEN'S WOOLLEN FABRIC
IN HARRIS CHARACTER FOR
SPORTSWEAR - CLOTHES AND
ACCESSORIES OF DISTINC-
TION. SUITE 302, HONG KONG
HOTEL. TELEPHONES 30281

"CARTERS" 3, Connaught
Road, C. 2nd floor (next to
Hong Kong Club on Waterfront
formerly Cable & Wireless
Office). Dress making, Mater-
nity Dresses, Children's Smock-
to order. Cretonne Chair
Covers, Bedspreads, Etc. made

ADVERTISER having prac-
tically perfected mathematical
system for "Fantom" "Dice"
desires most enthusiastic capable
disproving system as impractic-
able. Phone 57687.

MOSDA automatic lighter is
now obtainable at all stores
Distributors: Henry Paul
Cheung & Co. Tel. 28950

ON THE 4th floor, Kowloon
Building is THE CHINA
RUGS CO., selling genuine Pe-
king and Tientsin Rugs - lovely
designs, various sizes. Come
and inspect.

FOR YOUR BREAKFAST
Tiffin, Afternoon Tea & Dinner
You are welcome. Prompt Ser-
vice. Airy and Quiet. Try
Cafe de Luxe, China Emporium
Mezzanine Floor Tel. 26486.

NEW Winter Suits - Style and
workmanship guaranteed to your
satisfaction. Selected range of
English materials. Telephone
21366 for tailor to call - King's
(Ah Yan) Tailor, 4, D'Aguiar
Street, 1st Floor.

DANCING LESSONS

POPULAR DANCING CLASS
- Starting soon. Expert In-
structions. Easy Terms. Free
Offer to Ladies! Enquiries
(2-4 P.M.) - Tony Hudson, 612,
China Building.

POSITION VACANT

REQUIRED Immediately by
British Import Firm (a)
Chinese Import Shipping Clerk,
capable of handling all Shipping
Documents, including Insurance
claims, Stock records, Delivery
Orders etc. (b) Chinese junior
book-keeper (c) Chinese junior
typist - filing clerk (d) Bi-
lingual female telephoneist.
Apply P.O. Box 148 for inter-
view.

FOR SALE

UNDERWOOD LATEST
MODEL just arrived. Lowest
price. Also typewriters for rent.
Service guaranteed. Tel. 27682.
Universal Typewriter Co., 22
Des Voeux Road, C. 1st floor.

KING'S MUSIC CO.

Pianos by famous makers.
Record Players for AC/DC.
"Columbia" portable gram-
ophones, musical instruments,
accessories, piano tuning, &
general repairs.
5, Chiu Lung St. Telephone 30489
(Entrance Opposite
"Loke Yew" Bldg.)

POLICE FORCE

In view of the approaching Chinese New Year, it is hereby
notified that His Excellency the Governor has given permission
for fireworks, not being unlawful fireworks, to be kindled, dis-
charged or let off within the portions of the Colony enumerated in
Part I of the following Table within the respective times set
opposite such portions in such Part I, subject nevertheless to the
exceptions, prohibitions and restrictions set out in Part II of the
said Table.

PART I.

TABLE

Portion of the Colony.
(Subject nevertheless to the exceptions
and prohibitions and restrictions set forth
in Part II of this Table.)

Permitted Times.

In the Island of Hong Kong:-
(1) All the area within and bounded by
Pedder Street to Connaught Road
Central to Murrumbidgee Road to Queen's
Road Central, and back to Pedder
Street.

(2) All that area within and bounded by
a line from the entrance to the Royal
Naval Hospital in Queen's Road East
to Kennedy Road, along Kennedy Road
to a line running immediately behind
and parallel to Hing Wan Street,
thence along this line to Stone Nullah
Lane, down Stone Nullah Lane to
Queen's Road East, along Queen's
Road East to Tai Yuen Street by Tai
Yuen Street and Olden Road to
Gloucester Road, along Gloucester
Road to Stewart Road, and thence by
Stewart Road and Heard Street to the
boundary of the Public Works Depart-
ment Store.

(3) All the area within and bounded by
Leighton Hill Road, to Caroline Road,
to Shaubkwan Road, along Eastern
Hospital Road, to Tai Hang Road,
along Tai Hang Road to Stubbs Road,
to Morrison Gap Road, to Morrison
Hill Road, and back to Leighton Hill
Road.

The streets and roads or portions
thereof, as the case may be, through
which boundary lines pass are included
within the areas (1), (2) and (3).

In Kowloon:-
(4) All that portion of the Kowloon Penin-
sula south of Austin Road.

(5) The area within (and including) the
following boundary:-

Nathan Road from Austin Road to
Boundary Street thence Boundary
Street to the Railway Line, thence the
Railway Line to the Northern end of
Kowloon Tong, thence Cornwall Road
to Waterloo Road, thence Waterloo
Road to Boundary Street, thence Bound-
ary Street to Prince Edward Road,
thence Prince Edward Road to Argyle
Street, thence Argyle Street to Water-
loo Road, thence Waterloo Road to No.
4 Railway Bridge, thence the Railway
Line to Chatham Road, thence Chal-
ham Road to Austin Road.
The whole of Jordan Road is includ-
ed within the boundary.

In the Colony:-
(6) Elsewhere in the Colony.

(7) From 4 p.m. on
Monday the 9th Febru-
ary, 1948 to 4 p.m. on
Wednesday the 11th
February, 1948.
From 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.
on Monday the 16th
February, 1948.

PART II.

EXCEPTIONS, PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS.

No firework shall be discharged within the following area:-

All that area within and bounded by a line along the whole
of Ko Shing Street to its western end or junction with
Des Voeux Road West, thence along Des Voeux Road West
to its junction with Centre Street, thence along Centre
Street to its junction with Bonham Road, thence along and
including Bonham Road to a point found by producing the
eastern boundary of Pound Lane, thence to and along
and including Pound Lane, thence along and including
Hollywood Road to its junction with Queen's Road West,
thence along Queen's Road West to its junction with
Queen's Street, thence along Queen's Street to its junction
with Ko Shing Street, the point of commencement.
The course of the said line is such that boundary streets
and roads not specifically included in the area lie out-
side it.

No burning firework or other fire shall be thrown above the
head, or near any person or inflammable material, and every
reasonable precaution must be taken against accident.

The kindling, discharge or letting off of fireworks in or in
the vicinity of hospitals, or of places of Christian Worship during
Divine Service is prohibited.

The firing of Bombs, "Electric" crackers and "Golden Coin"
crackers is strictly prohibited.

With reference to the permission hereby notified attention is
drawn to the rule set forth in Government Notification No. 79
published in the Government Gazette dated 10th February, 1933.
"No person shall make, sell, or have in his possession any fire-
work which explodes on impact, or which contains any explosive
ingredient or mixture other than black gunpowder, charcoal, sul-
phur, saltpetre, aluminium and potassium perchlorate, or which
has in any single container thereof more than 10 grains of any
explosive mixture in which potassium perchlorate is an ingredient".

Occupiers of premises are warned as to their liability under
the Summary Offences Ordinance, 1932, in particular in respect
of any unlawful firing or throwing of fireworks at, on or from
their premises.

The Police have strict orders to summon or arrest persons
firing fireworks in contravention of the foregoing permission and
rule.

W. LA B. SPARROW,
Acting Commissioner of Police.

19th January, 1948.

THE GOLDEN GATE
PRINTING PRESS
The BEST name in job printing.
Specialise in Copperplate and
Die Stamping, Letterheads,
Visiting Cards, Booklets,
Balance Sheets, Envelopes. Also
Copper, Rubber, Horn & Ivory
Stamps Makers. All kinds of
stationery and printing of every
description.
44, D'Aguiar Street, Central
Hong Kong. Telephone 33485.

PEIPING & TIENSIN
WOOL CARPETS
WHOLESALE
OR RETAIL
CHI HING HONG
65 Queen's Road C. 1st Floor.
Telephone 24859.
HONGKONG

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land
by Public Auction will be held at the Offices of the Public
Works Department on Monday, the 9th day of February, 1948
at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at
the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands and Surveys,
Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

No. of Acre	Registry No.	Location	Boundaries	Area in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 2512	Tai Po Road	As per sale plan (Area coloured red)	45,000 (about)	\$700	\$21,500

Immediately after the fall of the hammer the purchaser shall
according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer a
sum of \$4,300.00 in cash or by cheque which shall be certified
by the Bank on which it is drawn. The Bank must be a mem-
ber of the Exchange Banks Association.

V. KENIFF,
Director of Public Works.

Date: 30th January, 1948.

HONGKONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION URGENT NOTICE

In order to serve notice of the Annual General
Meeting of the Association to be held at an early
date, will all prewar members desirous of re-
suming membership please send a chit notifying
their name, address and motor car or cycle re-
gistration number to:-

Mr. T. E. Jackson,
Assistant Director of Marine,
Harbour Office.

Note-The new subscription fees will be decided
at the Annual General Meeting of
Members.

Motorists wishing to join the Association may
obtain a form from any member of the Interim
Committee or from the address above.

T. E. JACKSON.

NOTICE

THE COMPANIES ORDINANCES (HONG KONG)

CHANGE OF NAME

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders of the INTERNATIONAL
ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED, held at
the Company's Head Office, 12-14 Queen's Road
Central, at 11.00 a.m. on February 5, 1948, a
resolution was unanimously adopted changing
the name of the Company to

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL ASSURANCE
COMPANY, LIMITED.

H. G. W. WOODHEAD,
Secretary.

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors
and Appraisers.
Pedder Building.
Telephone No. 20224.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have receiv-
ed instructions to sell by Public
Auction on

Friday, the 6th, February 1948
commencing at 2.30 p.m.

at their Sales Rooms No.
35 Hankow Road Kowloon.

A FINE COLLECTION OF
VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD
FURNITURE

comprising:-

Chesterfield Suites, Dining
Room Suites, Bed Room Suites
1 Westinghouse Refrigerator,
Royal & Underwood Type-
writers, 1 Hedman Check Pro-
tector, 1 Original Odhner Cal-
culating Machine, 1 Gas Stove-
new, 2 Singer Treadle Sewing
Machines, 1 Electric Cooking
Stove, Ice Chests, Wardrobes
Dressing Tables, Hanging Cup-
boards, Tea Poy, Dining Ta-
bles, Sideboards, Glass Cabinets,
Odd Upholster Armchairs, Din-
ing Chairs, Old Clothings, Sin-
gle & Double Bedsteads, In-
dian Carpets, and Glass Ware
Etc., Etc.

On View from Thursday, the
5th, February 1948.

Terms: As Customary.

LAMMERT BROS.
Auctioneers.

NOTICE

Removal Of Office

Notice is hereby given that the
Preparatory Commission, Inter-
national Refugee Organization of
the United Nations Hong
Kong Branch Office has of this
date vacated its former premises
at the Ritz Hotel, Austin Road,
Kowloon. All mail and en-
quiries should henceforth be
addressed to:-

Room 801
Bank of East Asia
Building
Des Voeux Rd., C.
Hong Kong

Telephones: 31549
23486

dated February 5th 1948

THOMAS D. SHERRARD
Acting Director
PCIRO Branch Office
Hong Kong

NOTICE TO CATHOLICS OF THE DIOCESE OF HONG KONG

FAST and ABSTINENCE
are dispensed throughout the
year 1948, except for GOOD
FRIDAY which will be a day
of both fast and abstinence.

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION ORDINARY YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the Ordinary Yearly Gen-
eral Meeting of the Share-
holders of the Corporation will
be held at the Head Office of the
Corporation, 1 Queen's Road
Central, Hongkong, on Friday
the 5th day of March, 1948, at
11.30 a.m. for the purpose of
receiving and considering the
reports of the Directors and of
the Auditors and the Profit and
Loss Account and Balance
Sheet for the year ending 31st
December, 1947, and for the
election of Directors and the ap-
pointment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of
the Corporation will be closed
from Friday, the 20th February
to Friday the 5th March, 1948
(both days inclusive) during
which period no transfer of
shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board.

A. MORSE,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 6th February, 1948.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given
that the Ordinary Yearly Meet-
ing of Shareholders will be
held at the Hong Kong Hotel,
Hong Kong, on Friday, 27th
February, 1948, at 12.00 NOON,
for the purpose of receiving the
Report of the Directors, to-
gether with a Statement of Ac-
counts for the Year ended
31st December, 1947, and for
the election of Directors and
the appointment of Auditors.

And NOTICE is further
hereby given that the Register
and Transfer Books of the
Company will be closed from
the 14th to the 27th February,
1948, both days inclusive, dur-
ing which period no Transfer
of Shares can be registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS &
SON, LTD.
General Managers

Hongkong, 6th February, 1948.

NOTICE TO MARINERS

No. 2/48.

Hong Kong Harbour. Wreck-Marking Light.

POSITION:-
Bearing from Kowloon
Railway Clock Tower 302
degrees distant 12.3
cables.

REMARKS:-
The green flashing light on
the superstructure of the
wreck in above position
has been removed to a
green-painted buoy laid
in a position 50 feet
southward of the wreck.

DETAILS:-
The light buoy shows a
green flashing light every
5 seconds, viz. 1 second
Flash and 4 seconds
Eclipse, visibility 1 1/2
miles.

Former Hong Kong Notices to
Mariners Nos. 41/1945 and
15/1946

para. (a) are hereby cancelled.

CHARTS AFFECTED:-
3280, E.1.10318.

AUTHORITY:-
Director of Marine.

J. JOLLY,
Director of Marine.

Marine Department,
Hongkong, 4th Feb., 1948.

ROYAL HONG KONG YACHT CLUB DANCE

Saturday, 7th Feb. 1948.

TRANSPORT:-

(1) Launch leaves Kowloon
8 p.m. sharp. (One trip
only).

(2) Frequent service from
Queen's Pier from 7.30
p.m., returning after
dance.

(3) Shuttle service between
Gloucester Road stops
and Club.

NOTICE IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF JOHN
ALEXANDER CALLAN-
DER POLSON otherwise
known as JOHN CAL-
LANDER POLSON late of
No. 9 Stanley Terrace,
Quarry Bay, Shaubkwan in
the Colony of Hongkong,
Foreman-joiner deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Court has by
virtue of Section 58 of the Pro-
bates Ordinance, 1897, made an
Order limiting the time for
creditors and others to send in
their claims against the above
estate to the 27th day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

All creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 3rd day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

A. el ARCULLI,
Solicitor for the Executor
of the said deceased,
Kowloon Building, 2nd floor,
Hongkong.

NOTICE IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF
DAVID EZEKIEL
JOSHUA ABRAHAM late
of 810 Avenue Foch,
Shanghai, China, merchant,
deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Court has by
virtue of Section 58 of the Pro-
bates Ordinance, 1897, made an
Order limiting the time for
creditors and others to send in
their claims against the above
estate to the 3rd day of March,
1948.

All creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 2nd day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

DEACONS,
Solicitors for the Executors,
Prince's Building,
Hongkong.

NOTICE IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF
MOOSABHOY SOO.
MARBHOY MAWJI alias
MOOSABHOY SUMAR
MAWJI alias MOOSA
SOOMAR MAWJI alias
MUSABHAI SOOMAR
MAWJI late of Bombay
Khoja Muslim Inhabitant,
deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Court has by
virtue of Section 58 of the Pro-
bates Ordinance, 1897, made an
Order limiting the time for
creditors and others to send in
their claims against the above
estate to the 3rd day of March,
1948.

All creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 2nd day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

DEACONS,
Solicitors for the
Administrators,
Prince's Building,
Hongkong.

BANK HOLIDAYS

The Exchange Banks will be
closed for the transaction of
public business on Tuesday and
Wednesday, the 10th and 11th
February, 1948. (Chinese New
Year Holidays).

Hongkong, 6th February, 1948.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONG KONG

PROBATE JURISDICTION

IN THE GOODS OF FRE-
DERICK IVAN GEORGE
HALL, late of Victoria in
the Colony of Hong Kong,
merchant, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Court has by
virtue of Section 58 of the Pro-
bates Ordinance, 1897, made an
Order limiting the time for
creditors and others to send in
their claims against the above
estate to the 3rd day of March,
1948.

All creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 2nd day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

DEACONS,
Solicitors for the Executors,
Prince's Building,
Hongkong.

ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION

DINNER DANCE

Friday 5th March, 1948

8.30 p.m.-1.00 a.m.

Roof Garden

HONG KONG HOTEL

DRESS OPTIONAL

TICKETS

CIVILIANS SERVICES

Single \$10 Single \$ 6

Double \$15 Double \$12

S. GROVE

HON. SECRETARY R.A.F.A.

c/o Hong Kong Telephone

Co., Ltd.,

Exchange Building.



For TRUSTEE BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
B

THE CHINA MAIL, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1948.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

DAILY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m. DAILY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
OPENING TO-DAY

THE LATEST PAGE OF THE GREAT BRITAIN'S LATEST CROSS THE SCREEN

"TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST"

THE MOST EXCITING STORY EVER TOLD

Alan LADD · Brian DONLEVY
William BENDIX · Barry FITZGERALD

Produced by LEO MURPHY
Directed by LEO MURPHY

SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

HUMPHREY BOGART
LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN CROMWELL'S
Dead Reckoning

Man and woman dynamite!

With CHARLES CARNOVSKY
WILLIAM MARSHALL
PRINCE MILLER-FORD
Directed by JOHN CROMWELL
Produced by SIDNEY HULL
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW **Cathay** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

THE BEST OF THE WEST RIDES AGAIN!

"WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES"

A WARNER BROS. PICTURE

with CONSTANCE BENNETT · BRUCE CABOT · WARREN WILLIAM
Betty Brewer · Walter Catlett · Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

ALSO:— WARNER SPECIAL
"CALLING ALL GIRLS"
with HOLLYWOOD'S ALL BEAUTIES

* NEXT CHANGE * Bud Abbott Lou Costello in
THEY'RE BACK... from the FRONT...
in their NEWEST & by far their FUNNIEST HIT!
"BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME"

A WEALTH OF ENTERTAINMENT AND INFORMATION

Introducing the second programme of a new series:
This week at the
KING'S THEATRE

Morning Shows
Sat., Feb. 7th. Sun., Feb. 8th.
10.30 a.m. 11.45 a.m. 1 p.m.

1. Colour Cartoon—**PLUTO'S KID BROTHER**
 2. Latest Pathé Newsreel—**CANADA REVEALS ATOM SECRETS**
AUSTRALIA V ENGLAND—Rugby
 3. SNOWDONIA—A coloured Travelogue
 4. WORLD PROBLEMS I—World Shortage of Food, Destruction, Devastation, Starvation—The REMEDY.
 5. LOOKING THROUGH GLASS—What you don't know about Glass
 6. Coloured Cartoon—**DONALD'S DOUBLE TROUBLE**
- THREE SHOWS EACH MORNING
ADMISSION 60 cents.

CENTRAL THEATRE

SHOWING TO-DAY at 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

Theirs Was A Love Out Of This World!

A love haunted by nameless evil in a house of terror... a love that fought to free itself of unseen evil.

"THE UNINVITED"

Ray Milland · Ruth Hussey
Donald Crisp · Corolla Ota Skinner
Directed by GAIL RUSSELL
A Paramount Picture

AN ECONOMIC NECESSITY

Reformed Administration In Germany

Not Pattern For Central Cabinet

Paris, Feb. 4.
General Lucius D. Clay, the American Military Governor in Germany, said in Paris today that the reformed bizonal administration about to be introduced in Germany was not a pattern for a future Central Government in any part of Germany but simply an economic necessity.

Speaking at a luncheon of the Anglo-American Press Association, General Clay said that American policy in Germany, which had been consistent throughout, was to develop in the provinces a sense of responsibility before the formation of a Central Government with the consent of the Allies.

General Clay said: "We are not at all sure that the powers of the central administration had to be strengthened to get out of the economic quagmire."

TURKEY RECALLS ENVOY

Ankara, Feb. 5.
Turkey has called her Ambassador home from Moscow.

The sudden diplomatic move was the answer to Russia's refusal to return her Ambassador to Ankara.

The Foreign Office declined immediate comment on the withdrawal of Ambassador Fakh Zuhri Akdur from Moscow.

The Russian Government recalled its Ambassador, Sergei Vinogradov, in the autumn of 1945. Russia is looked after by a Charge d'Affaires here.

The Turkish press and political sources have said that Russia was seeking certain territorial concessions in Turkish areas. Vinogradov's recall presumably was caused by Turkey's refusal of Russian demands.

"Turkey has had her fill of this snail, and this is her answer," one diplomat said. Associated Press.

JEWS IN DANGER

Philadelphia, Feb. 4.
Joseph Verdure, the American swimming ace, bettered his own world record for the 200 yards breast stroke here when he covered the distance in two minutes 16 seconds.

His previous mark was two minutes 16.4 seconds set up in March 1947.—Reuter

STAR

Phone 58335
2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.
TO-DAY ONLY

JOHN WAYNE · ANN DVORAK

FLAME OF BARBARY COAST

JOSEPH SCHULZBACH
A BILLY ROSE PICTURE

FEBRUARY 7, 8 & 9.

"CROSSFIRE"

starring ROBERT ROBERT ROBERT
YOUNG · MITCHUM · RYAN

DANCE AT THE LIDO DANCING HALL

144-148 Des Voeux Rd. 4th flr
Side Entrance

FINE DANCING FLOOR
GOOD MUSIC.

FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE
NEWLY DECORATED
BEST SERVICE

"JANE"

"YES, I'D LOVE TO SEE A LOT OF YOU, MISS—AND, OF COURSE, MR HACE—WHILE ENJOYING MY VACATION AT THIS ERE OLIDAY CAMP!"

VERY NICE OF YOU, MALTRAVERS!

I ALWAYS ASSOCIATE YOU WITH BANGS—BUT I SUPPOSE NOW YOU'RE OUT OF REACH OF HIS LORDSHIP'S CIGARS

BANG!

D'YOU THINK LORD LOVEACE SENT HIM TO SPY ON US, JANEY?

LYDIA, MORE LIKELY!!!

POP

COME ALONG SISTER, GET CRACKING!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

A 24" STAMP! AND HURRY UP WITH A CHANGE

Stampede

CHANGE ON PALESTINE

London, Feb. 4.
A change of British policy may result from inter-departmental consideration of the United Nations Palestine Commission's letter criticising Britain's refusal to admit its members to the country until two weeks before the termination of the mandate.

The original decision not to have more than a four-night's overlap was made in the belief that the members of the Commission might be in personal danger.—Reuter.

India To Nationalise Bank

New Delhi, Feb. 4.
The Indian Government proposes to take steps to nationalise the Reserve Bank after September 1948, Mr. Shammukhan Chetty, Indian Finance Minister, announced in the Dominion Parliament tonight.

Mr. Chetty said: "The nationalisation of the Reserve Bank can be effected only after Sept. 30, when the Bank ceases to be a common banker for India and Pakistan."

"The Government proposes to take steps to see that the nationalisation of the Bank affected as soon as possible thereafter."

"The Government accept the policy of nationalising the Imperial Bank of India but as the bank has branches outside India, the Government propose to examine carefully various technical questions that arise in connection with policy is implemented."

"It is not the intention of the Government to nationalise other commercial banks," Mr. Chetty declared.—Reuter.

Britain To Spill The Beans?

LONDON, FEB. 4.
THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, MR. ERNEST BEVIN, TOLD MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, THE OPPOSITION LEADER, IN PARLIAMENT TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING THE QUESTION OF PUBLISHING GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE RECORDS.

The records cover German-Soviet relations between 1939 and the invasion of Russia in 1941. They included reports on conferences between Hitler and M. Molotov on the division of the world into Russian and German, Italian and Japanese spheres of influence and discussions on the "division of the British Empire."

When Mr. Churchill referred to the American publication of the documents, Mr. Bevin said: "Because somebody else publishes something out of its context, I am not too sure that it is wise for me to follow automatically without considering the matter very carefully."

Saying he refused to be "hustled," Mr. Bevin added: "Whatever happened in 1939 and 1941, I have got to consider what is likely to happen in 1948."—Reuter.

Guerilla Air Force Reports

Athens, Feb. 5.
A reliable informant said that Greek airfields are being strengthened with anti-aircraft guns and searchlights.

The informant said that the United States also has delivered a number of reconnaissance planes to bolster the Greek air force.

This development followed reports from Government sources several weeks ago that military airfields were lacking almost entirely in anti-aircraft equipment.

Alarm was felt in view of reports by the guerrilla radio that the forces under Markos Vafiades, the guerrilla chieftain, were developing air strength.

Fighting continued in north-western Greece in the region of Ioannina. Greek army troops were in action around Philates, close to the Albanian border.—Associated Press.

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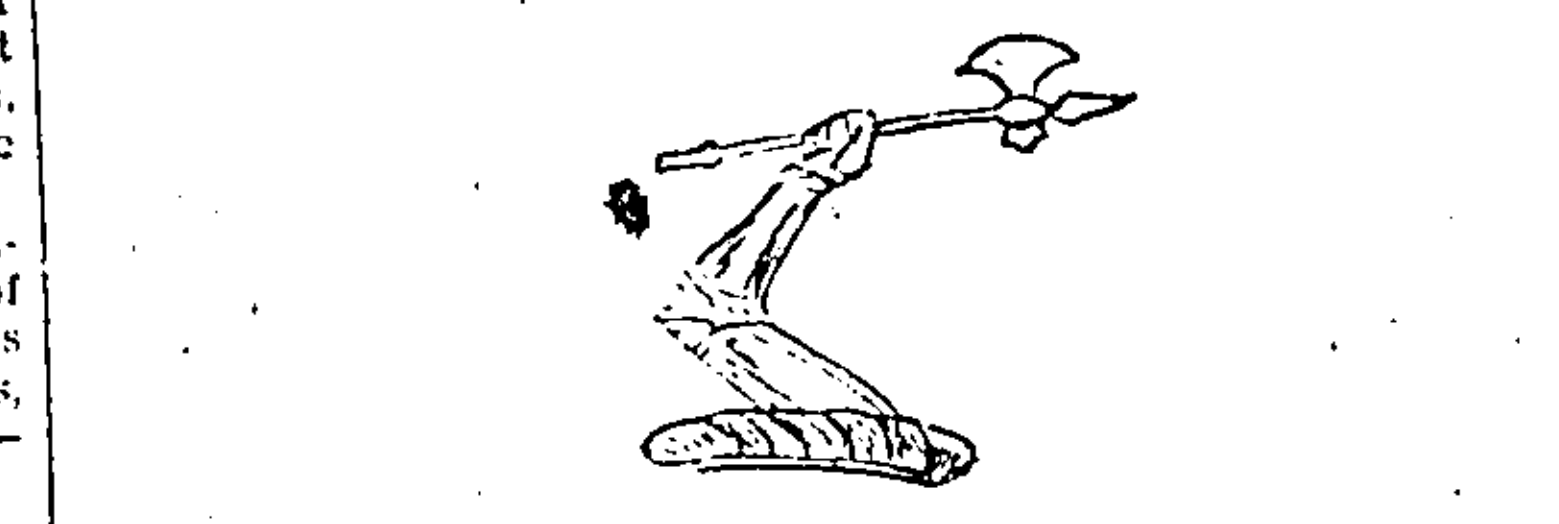
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DEATHS

HANCOCK—On 3rd February at Cambridge, after a short illness, Herbert Richard Budd Hancock, aged 70.

MRS CHAN HO-SHI—On 4th February 1948, at 4.30 p.m. at St. Paul's Hospital, Mrs. Chan Ho-shi, mother of Mr. Kenneth Chan, Managing Director of Gaudet, Price & Co., Ltd., aged 60. Funeral will leave Nodds Funeral Parlour for the Catholic Cemetery at 11.00 a.m. tomorrow (Saturday). No wreaths by request but donations can be sent to charitable institutions.

TRAFFIC CONTROL

The explanation offered by the police to justify recourse to the powers of the Commissioner of Police to suspend the licence of a public vehicle in special circumstances throws some new light on the matter. Action, it appears, is only taken after three warnings for breaches of such traffic regulations as are designed specifically to enable control to be exercised over public vehicles.

For other offences, dangerous driving, speeding, and the like, they are treated in exactly the same manner as other road-users. Part of the police difficulty—explaining the decision in invoke these extreme powers—has been the inconsistency and frequently the inadequacy of magisterial fines, making it profitable at certain times of day or on special occasions for public hire drivers to defy the law and, cheerfully, pay the penalty if caught.

There is, of course, good argument on both sides. The exercise of arbitrary powers calls for the utmost in discretion. In general, we find it difficult to escape the feeling that where heavy penalties are involved, cases are best handled by bringing them out into the open, in a magistrate's court. A recommendation for suspension of a licence can be made there as readily as in an official file. The Commissioner of Police may act upon it, or not, for his is the final word. Nor is there anything to stop him from making his own decision, with or without a Court recommendation. But first ventilation that is the soundest guardian of justice.

Builder of Bridges

Even at times when political ties are strained, cultural bridges between nations often stand firm and carry a round-trip traffic of understandings that lead toward a better world. The programme set up by the Fulbright Act in the United States, promises to be one of the best bridge builders yet.

Under this Act other countries may buy United States surplus and pay for them by providing exchange scholarships, particularly for graduate students, teachers, and professors. It is expected that as many as 5,000 such scholarships will be provided each year.

The Fulbright plan, to work in the current world money situation, must be financed in the currency of the buying nation, not in dollars. Therefore many more Americans are likely to study or teach abroad than other people are to go to the United States. That is a situation which, while less ideal, in no way makes two-way exchange of ideas and viewpoints impossible.

Twenty-two countries have said they are ready to make use of the Fulbright Act. Russia is not among them. But it is significant that five nations within or bordering the Russian zone are: Finland, Poland, Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia.

Police Protest

Police officers who were recruited in England for Hong Kong about the time of Japan's surrender, and subsequently, are protesting against the terms offered them in interpretation of the recommendations of the Salaries Commission. And, not

IS THE RICKSHA TO DISAPPEAR?

By Margaret Bradbury

The decision of the Chinese Government to abolish all rickshaws in the country within the next three years, may be followed by the Hong Kong authorities if the new motorised version, the "rickmobile", is accepted for use on the Colony's roads.

Now under consideration by Government officials, the "rickmobile" is an open petrol with a two-stroke engine—would replace the total of 850 licensed rickshaws at present plying for trade in the Colony. It would then be able to maintain a uniform speed of 15 m.p.h. in conformity with other motorised traffic, instead of at the moment maintaining a speed of 5 m.p.h. and at times getting in the way of other vehicles. With a motorised version of the ricksha, only a low percentage of the present total of rickshaws would be needed to operate the same service as the vehicle run mechanically would do six journeys in the time taken by the present hand-pulled ricksha.

Altogether there are 20 "famers", or ricksha owners in the Colony, 15 in Hong Kong and five in Kowloon. They are responsible for 500 rickshaws in Hong Kong and 350 in Kowloon. These hire out to coolies at a rate of \$1.50 per 24 hours. As a rule there are two coolies to one ricksha, one operating a day service, and the other during the night.

Set Quota

These coolies each pay 75 cents to the famer for hire, and their average earnings these days are from six to seven dollars each a day.

100 Years Ago

(From the files of the "China Mail")

The "Lady Mary Wood" has arrived here from Woosung. She brought about 800 bales of silk and two cases of Dollars.

From Cuningmeon we learn that the "Elizabeth Anslie," of 480 tons, lately arrived from Calcutta, has been totally destroyed by fire.

About half-past 3 a.m. the Masters of the Receiving Vessels around were aroused by the loud ringing of the ship's bell, and shortly learned that the vessel was on fire. With all despatch the boats of the fleet were manned, and with fire buckets and other apparatus proceeded to render what assistance lay in their power.

By the time, however, that any active measures could be adopted, the fire had made such progress that it was found the destruction of the vessel was inevitable. To prevent harm being done to the other vessels, the "Elizabeth Anslie" was towed clear of the fleet—the destruction of the vessel and cargo meanwhile rapidly taking place.

One continuous cloud of fire rising some 200 feet above her deck presented a grand spectacle. Every endeavour was made to scuttle the vessel, but before such could be accomplished she blew up with a tremendous explosion and sank half an hour afterwards. The "Elizabeth Anslie" had delivered a considerable portion of her cargo, but at the time of her destruction there were on board about 300 chests of Opium, 1,200 bags of Salt-petre, and a few hundred bales of Cotton.

After the blowing up of the vessel, 1,000 bales of Opium floating on the water were picked up.

as far as we can see, without good reason.

The salary question in itself calls for no discussion, since the men have the choice of accepting the new scales or continuing to serve within the terms of their existing contract. What is puzzling, and not a little ridiculous, is the suggestion that they should accept the new scale and simultaneously accept the status of probationers.

Overlooked, apparently, is the fact that the majority of these new officers were specially selected from some of the best police forces in the United Kingdom, the Metropolitan, Southampton and Liverpool among them, and that some had completed upwards of ten years in police work in England before coming to Hong Kong. Their experience and qualities, in most cases, have been demonstrated over and over again; and by the nature of the tasks assigned to them. That they should feel resentful is less surprising than that an offer in such terms should ever have been made. These days, of course, we are beginning to expect all

The Hong Kong Government permits a set quota of public vehicles on the Colony's roads, and the ricksha is included in this number. All of them are by law required to be licensed and inspected monthly by the police for cleanliness and roadworthiness. Private rickshaws, which there are about one hundred in the Colony, are only issued to the aged and infirm on the grounds that it would be difficult for them to use any other form of cheap public transport. About thirty years ago in Hong Kong there were 1,250 rickshaws. These were of a bigger type than those of the present day, and could seat two people side by side. They were pulled by one man, and nearly all pullers came from the Cantonese town of Waichow, about 80 miles north-east of Hong Kong. All rickshaws were made by carpenters privately commissioned by the famers (who were also city businessmen) to be built according to set standards. At that time also, the famer was required to obtain a licence from Government before he was able to rent out the rickshaws.

History Of The Ricksha

The history of the ricksha has its beginnings in Japan. According to a British author, Mr. C. Roper, in a book published in 1895 and entitled "Zigzag Travels" they were invented by a missionary, Mr. W. Gode, about 1870. They were known by the Japanese name of Jimricksha which translated by the English Dictionary of Historic Principles to mean (Jim) Man (rick) strength or power (sha) vehicle.

The definition is given as "A light two-wheeled wooden vehicle, drawn by one or more men, and first used in Japan in 1870."

Another name for the ricksha common many years ago in Japan was "Kuruma" which, with another author, Miss Bird, came into contact and wrote about in a book published in 1880. This was probably a more expensive type of vehicle for Miss Bird describes it thus: "The Kuruma consists of a light portable body, an adjustable head of milled paper, a velvet or cloth lining and cushions, a well for parking under the seat, two high slim wheels and a pair of shafts connected by a bar at the end."

An ex-Hong Kong Government official, Mr. Dyer Hall, in an informative volume entitled "Things Chinese" first printed in 1924 in the Colony had more to say on the subject. At that time it seems the ricksha was not used in the native parts of China but was employed in several of the Treaty Ports as well as in Hong Kong. Mr. Hall states that rickshaws were introduced into Shanghai foreign settlements from Japan and some years later into Hong Kong. An attempt to introduce them into Peking in the early nineties was frustrated by the cart guilds, nominally because it was considered derogatory for a man to take the place of an animal, really because their interests were threatened.

70,000 In Peking

Mr. Hall continues: "There are now (1924) seventy thousand rickshas in Peking and they are to be seen in many other inland cities also. Generally the ricksha coolies, except where under foreign administration, are a low, dirty, abusive class, who extort from the foreigner far more than is accepted from the native. Any protest being met with vulgar abuse. In Peking, it is estimated that over 200,000 people are dependent upon the livelihood gained by ricksha coolies, who average about a hundred coppers a day, out of which they have to pay the hiring fee to the owner. In commenting on the present condition of these ricksha

coolies and the effect the tram car lines will have on them, the Chinese press states that "less than five per cent of the coolies ever get enough money saved up to set themselves up in trade. The others either die, very often of starvation, or turn criminals to keep themselves alive."

Commenting on the fares paid to ricksha coolies, Mr. Hall adds: "It must be remembered that a very large amount paid to them is spent on gambling and prostitution. Outside the foreign settlements and concessions there is no fixed tariff, and the charge becomes a matter of arrangement between the fare and the ricksha coolie, the latter invariably judging by the appearance of the former what he thinks he is able to afford. Foreigners cannot make a contract of this sort, because the first demand is always from twice to five or ten times or more the proper fare, consequently there are often disputes when the destination is reached."

"The Chinese are not such good ricksha coolies as the Japanese who think nothing of drawing tandem a heavy man fifty miles in one day up and down hill, but still the Chinese, though not such swift runners, or possessing such powers of endurance, make very fair ones."

On the subject of ricksha fares at that time Mr. Hall makes the surprising statement that the rates of hire in Hong Kong were "5 cents per quarter hour 10 cents per half hour, and 15 cents for one hour."

Completing his information, Mr. Hall says: "One enthusiast has proposed that they should be introduced into London. They are already half way there, as their use has not only extended to Singapore, Ceylon, and India but even to South Africa where at Cape Town, Durban and Pietermaritzburg they are well patronised and are crowding out the cabs and motor buggies. Kaffirs furnish the motive power. They are extending even nearer Europe now."

Truman Shocks The South

WASHINGTON, FEB. 4. SOUTHERN DEMOCRAT CONGRESSMEN, WHO HAVE IN THEIR POWER TO CRASH PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S CHANCES OF RE-ELECTION, LAST NIGHT CHORUSED FROM THE HOUSE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE THREATS TO WITHDRAW THEIR SUPPORT BECAUSE OF HIS CALL FOR A "NEW DEAL" FOR THE AMERICAN NEGRO.

Even more than President Roosevelt, Mr. Truman relies on the "Solid South" bloc, traditionally given to the Democratic Party.

Though the Southerners, described as "boiling mad" over the President's message to Congress, demanding an end to anti-negro discrimination, spoke of naming a new candidate of their own, they have none ready and suitable.

Outside Congress, Representative T. G. Abernethy (Democrat of Mississippi) proposed in a telegram to Mr. Fielding Wright, the State Governor, that southern Governors "march on Washington" to seek a showdown with Democratic Party leaders on the race issue.

Election plans are expected to be discussed at the conference of the southern Governors, meeting in Tallahassee, Florida, next Friday.—Reuter.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By SHEPARD BARCLAY

"THE AUTHORITY ON AUTHORITIES"

IT'S REALLY A DISEASE

A disease which affects a lot of high-ranking players nowadays is what might be called "Exactitis." Its victims are a bit like dope fiends, in that they assume it voluntarily for the sake of the effects they get from it despite its harmful results. The principal symptoms are an overweening strain to show their partners their hands by bidding a new suit and later indicating the good fit they have for his major, instead of raising directly to one height or another. By so doing, they help their opponents to put up a perfect defense against them and thereby take fewer tricks than if they kept the other side in the dark.

S. A. K. 8 4
H. Q. J. 8 2
D. 10 7
C. 3 7 2
S. Q. 7 2
H. 10 6
D. K. Q. 9
8 6
C. J. 10 6
S. J. 9 6 5
H. 7 3
D. A. J. 3
C. Q. 9 3
S. 10
H. A. K. 9 5 4
D. 4 2
C. A. K. 3 4
(Dealer: East. Both sides vulnerable.)
East South West North

1. Pass 1 H Pass 3 H
Pass 4 H
East South West North
2. Pass 1 H Pass 1 S
Pass 2 C Pass 3 H
Pass 4 H

The bidding given first is what came where M. G. Murray, president of the St. Petersburg Bridge League, sat South with Dr. E. R. Roney as his partner against the vice-president, Fletcher Henderson, in the West and Miss Blanche Jolley—all fine players. Dr. Roney's forthright strong raise to 3-Hearts caused the defense to have a minimum of useful information, and it eventually proved worth a trick to his side.

Mr. Henderson, knowing nothing about the side suits of his opponents, led the club J. Miss Jolley, with no guidance on exactly what West and South had in the suit, showed it to be untricky by the encouraging 9. Seeing this, Mr. Murray ducked and the club 10 was led, which he won with the A. Two heart tricks, followed by clubs for a diamond discard, enabled him to make an extra trick. Where too much information was given by the kind of bidding in the second sequence above, two diamond tricks were lost, plus a club.

What meaning do you attach to your partner's redouble if the opponent at your left had doubled your opening suit bid of one?

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Edgar's just a wounded hero in the war on high food prices, doctor—he and another motorist were trying to run down the same chicken!"

PORTRAIT OF POPE PIUS XII

From Prudence James

Preparations have begun for the Catholic "Holy Year" in 1950. The Italian Government has appointed a special commission to deal with problems arising from the influx into the country of millions of pilgrims from the ends of the earth and, within the Vatican City, members of the Papal State are already preparing a programme which will be probably without precedent in any previous jubilee.

Every twenty-five years the Catholic Church sets aside one year as a Holy Year and the one which falls in 1950 will see fifty saints canonised in a series of services of pomp and grandeur each one of which will last at least three hours. The number of canonisations is the largest that has ever taken place in a single year. Christopher Columbus was one of those whose claims were urged, but he does not figure in the list of those who will be crowned with the highest honour that can be bestowed posthumously by the Church on its members.

The central figure in the year's celebrations will be frail, 71-years-old Eugenio Pacelli, Pius XII, Bishop of Rome and vicar of Jesus Christ, Successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church, Patriarch of the West, Primate of Italy, Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province, Sovereign of the State of the City of the Vatican.

Linguistic Ability

When he greets in public and private audience during the Holy Year the thousands that will clamour to see him, the linguistic ability of the Pope will stand him in good stead. Apart from his native Italian the Pope speaks equally well German, and can converse fluently in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Latin, ancient and modern Greek. Since the liberation of Rome, and doubtless because of the thousands of British and American troops who have filled through his audience chambers the Pope's English has improved and his pronunciation is extremely good.

An early riser—his day commences with prayers at 6.30 he follows a daily routine that often keeps him up to 2 a.m. In 1920 he was one of the first of the Cardinals to use an aeroplane regularly for visiting distant parts of Europe. Cardinal Pacelli travelled regularly, taking with him into the air-liner his famous white portable typewriter and composing his addresses with his aid while travelling.

Innovations which he has instituted at the Vatican include a shower bath, improved plumbing, a gymnasium, and white telephones. The Pope always dials his own numbers rather than have a secretary call them. He always shaves with an electric razor and both winter and summer takes his shower with cold water.

Cold By Gold

Since he was cured of bronchial trouble by an application of ice to the chest—a proceeding which caused many of the more conservative minded Cardinals to shake their heads in alarm—he

Queen's Broadcast Deplored

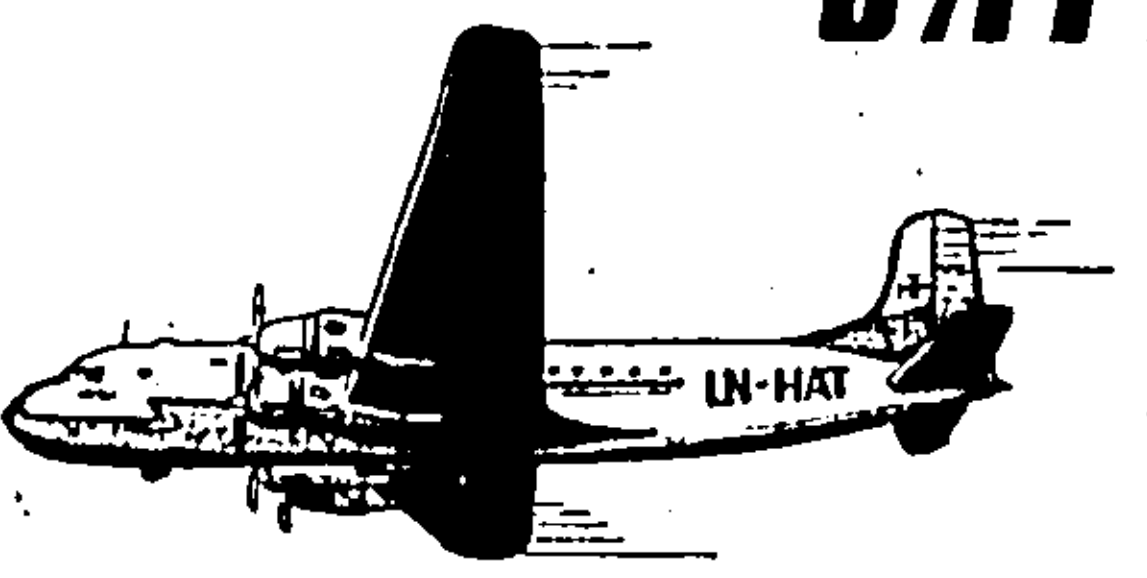
The Hague, Feb. 4. The Conservative Dutch newspaper, Het Dagblad, commenting today on Queen Wilhelmina's Free Indonesia broadcast last night, "strongly deplored" that "a Ministry sovereign as an instrument of party politics."

Queen Wilhelmina declared in her broadcast to Holland's wartime Allies that colonialism was dead and that "the people of our Commonwealth have reached a memorable goal. A free Indonesia is about to take her place among the democratic nations of the world."

Questioning the Queen's speech, the newspaper said: "A people of 70,000,000 has not come over to the side of democracy. Seventy million people face starvation and misery because we have not understood nor had the strength to maintain the finest monument we ever built: because we did not have the strength to be and to remain what we are: because today we are the plaything of Britain and tomorrow of the Americans and of some other ideology, the day after, and because we are sick and tired of all vague talk of spiritual and moral rearmament and of all slogans."—Reuter.

Calcutta, Feb. 4. An earthquake shock of great intensity with its epicentre 345 miles away was recorded here at 4.47 a.m. GMT today.—Reuter.

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MARSHALL PLAN WORRIES

Endless Discussion Obscuring Issue

Success May Be In Jeopardy

Washington, Feb. 4.
Very grave concern is being felt by the Government over the progress of the Marshall Plan through Congress, it was learned today from an unquestionable highly placed source.

Both in the White House and the State Department, it is feared that the crucially important basic principle behind the programme and its essential relationship to the drive for world peace is being submerged in the public and Congressional mind by the endless discussion of the important but not basic details of the scheme.

Both President Truman and Mr. Marshall, the Secretary of State, are understood to fear that this situation will have a most important effect on the morale of Western Europe.

It is admitted too that the present trend of the Congressional debate opens up an immediate danger that America's contribution to the programme will be seriously reduced and the passage of the scheme as a whole delayed beyond April 1.

Bogged Down

But the real fear is that in the Congressional debates and amendments yet to come, the basic purpose of the programme will be destroyed and its success thereby gravely, if not assuredly, jeopardised.

It is considered possible that Mr. Marshall may shortly decide to restate publicly in the most forceful terms, what he believes to be the basic purpose of his plan, in the hope of shaking the American public out of its present confusion.

The fact is that in the opinion of highly-placed quarters here the public is suffering not from a lack but from an overdose of information. The Marshall Plan is becoming bogged down in discussion and detail.—Reuter.

AN URGENT DEADLINE

WASHINGTON, FEB. 4.
MR. GEORGE MARSHALL, SECRETARY OF STATE, COMMENTING ON A POSSIBLE DELAY IN THE MARSHALL PLAN, SAID TODAY THAT THE ORIGINAL DEADLINE OF APRIL 1 WAS NOW MORE URGENT THAN EVER, BECAUSE INTERIM CUTS CARRIED OUT BY CONGRESS LAST DECEMBER MEANT THAT SUPPLIES TO SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD SOON RUN DRY.

Mr. Marshall told a press conference that there were no plans being prepared for another interim aid programme should his European recovery programme requirements not be met.

Referring to other aid programmes, Mr. Marshall said certain facts and figures regarding the situation in Greece supplied by the American aid chief, Mr. Dwight Griswold, were now under study.

Whether the Greek-Turkey programme would need funds over and above the \$400,000,000 originally appropriated by Congress was still an "open question."

Answering one correspondent at the conference, Mr. Marshall said he saw no signs at present of Russia relaxing her "intransigent attitude."—Reuter.

Australian Wheat Crop

Sydney, Feb. 4.
Mr. Reginald Pollard, Minister of Commerce, stated today that the latest estimate put this season's Australian wheat crop at 205 million bushels, or nine million bushels less than the record of 1932-33.

Only on three occasions has Australia's wheat crop exceeded 200 million bushels.

It was officially explained in Canberra that Mr. Pollard's figure excluded wheat unlikely to be marketed, whereas an estimate of 228 million bushels released today by the Commonwealth Statistician, Dr. Roland Wilson, included feed and seed wheat.

The harvest is almost double that of 1940-47.—Reuter.

LOANS TO CHINA

"A WASTE"

New York, Feb. 5.
"Lending large sums of money to China under present circumstances would be a waste and a means of doing more harm than good," according to R. D. McManigal, Vice-President of Westinghouse Electric, who has just returned from a Far East tour.

"China must work out her own difficulties and we possibly should give as much assistance as we can, short of subsidizing her with gifts and loans," McManigal today told the Export Managers Club of New York.

"She has had so much experience under free giving of products and materials, as carried on by UNRRA, that she has almost begun to believe the United States must support her."

"It was reported that (Lt. Gen. Albert) Wedemeyer told Chiang Kai-shek he must clean his house of grafters. This is undoubtedly true, but Ambassador Stuart offered the opinion that graft in Government circles would not disappear as long as their officials are so poorly paid and living costs so high, and that if the Chinese economy could first be brought to a more normal state, this graft would largely disappear."

"Virtual Magician"
"One has to be a virtual magician to do business in Shanghai under present circumstances. American businessmen told me they spend fully three-quarters of their time trying to unravel snags which develop through their dealings with the Export-Import Board. The other 25 per cent is probably taken up in discussing aggravating differences with labour unions."—United Press.

LORDS BILL COMPROMISE

London, Feb. 4.
The Government today broke the deadlock in its dispute with the House of Lords by agreeing to an inter-party conference on the issues raised by its bill to curtail the House of Lords' powers to delay legislation. This decision was described by the Opposition as "a notable victory for common-sense."—Reuter.

Middle East Storehouse

Luke Success, Feb. 4.
The Middle East still has large unexplored mineral potentialities, according to a report by the United Nations Economic Affairs Department, released here today.

Only limited efforts at extraction were made during the war, it said. "At present the Middle East contributes about 9.5 per cent of the world's oil production, compared with 6.1 per cent in 1939."

"The refining capacity in the area has been increased considerably since keeping pace with the increase in production."

"The Middle East is an important potential source for hydro-electricity, which could be generated from the River Nile, Jordan, Euphrates, and Tigris."—Reuter.

HONG KONG AIRPORT RIDICULE

London, Feb. 4.
When asked in the House of Commons today if he would make a statement about the provision of a new airport for Hong Kong and how it would be financed, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, replied: "This matter is under active consideration. I am not yet in a position to make a statement."

This drew ironic Opposition laughter.

Mr. William Telling, Conservative, asked if the Minister realised that this had taken a long time. It was a very urgent matter for the air services of the Far East.

Mr. Creech Jones replied that "very considerable progress" had already been made and he hoped to make a statement shortly.

Mr. W. R. Brown, Independent, asked: "When shall we pass from active consideration to passive action?" There was no reply.—Reuter.

Kidnapped M.P. Free

Athens, Feb. 4.
M. Loukas Koutsopetalos, the Greek Liberal Member of Parliament recently captured by guerrillas, returned to Athens tonight.

M. Koutsopetalos said he was well treated by the guerrillas, who released him without any conditions.

He walked six days after his capture to reach their headquarters "somewhere" in Roumelia (central Greece).

When he was freed, a guerrilla officer told him "he was impeding their march". Bandits accompanied him to the border of the rebel-held area, where he was handed over to villagers who were asked to sign a statement that he had been released safely.—Reuter.

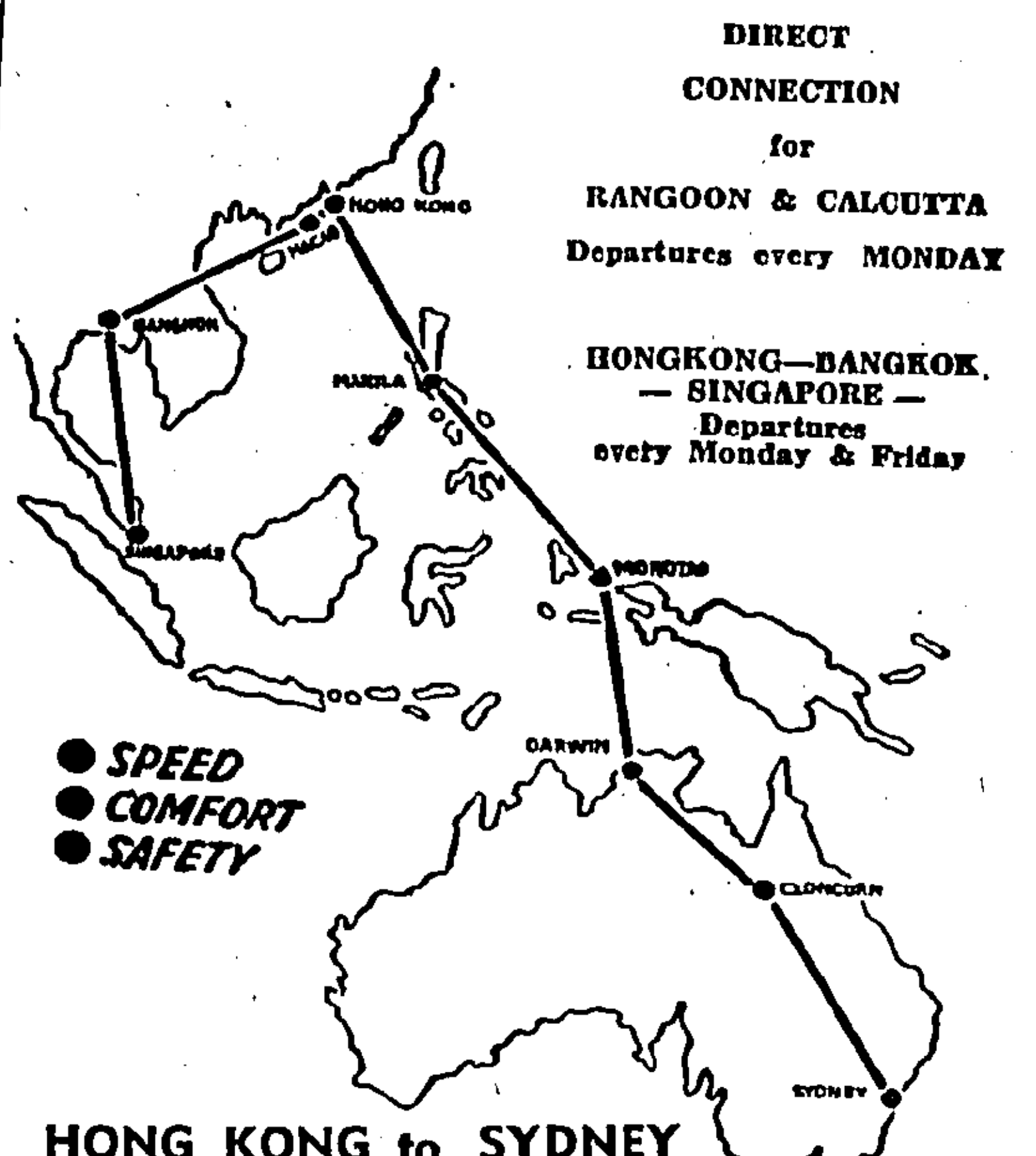
Mailed Fist In Bulgaria

Sofia, Feb. 4.
Bulgaria became virtually a one party state last night under the iron guidance of Communist Premier Georgi Dimitrov.

About 200,000 Bulgars heralded the change, parading past a reviewing stand where Dimitrov stood flanked by a Russian General. The paraders shouted themselves hoarse acclaiming Dimitrov.

The transition was accomplished by reorganising the Fatherland Front from a Communist-dominated coalition into a political party. It now embraces all other Bulgarian parties, virtually all mass organisations, and individuals with no political allegiance.—Associated Press.

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NEXT FLIGHT

Middle of February

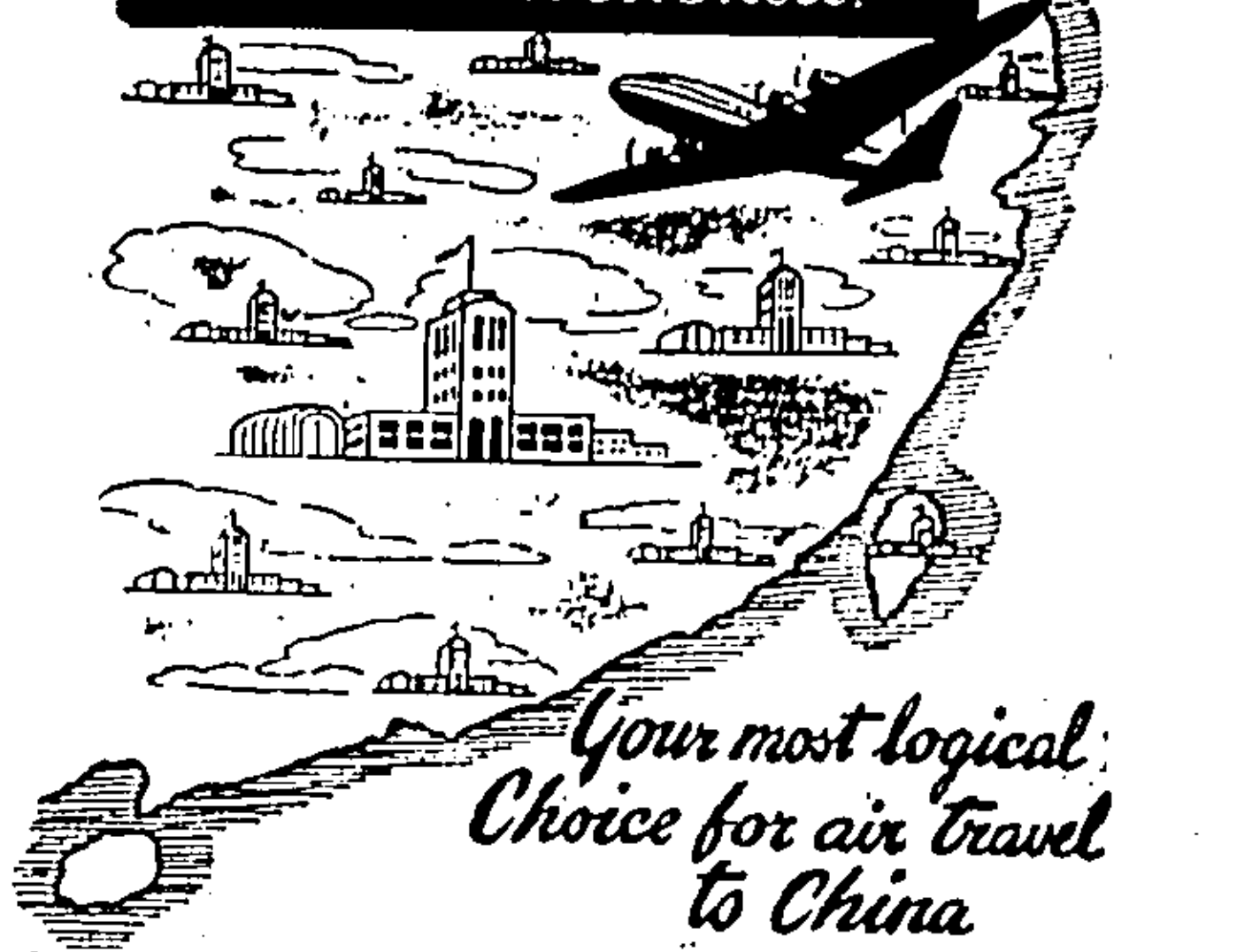
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U.S. Planes For Greece

Athens, Feb. 4.
The first American planes for Greece—trainer type aircraft suitable for observation, reconnaissance and combat—have been delivered to the Greek Air Force, Major General William Livesay, head of the military section of the United States Aid Mission to Greece, announced here today.

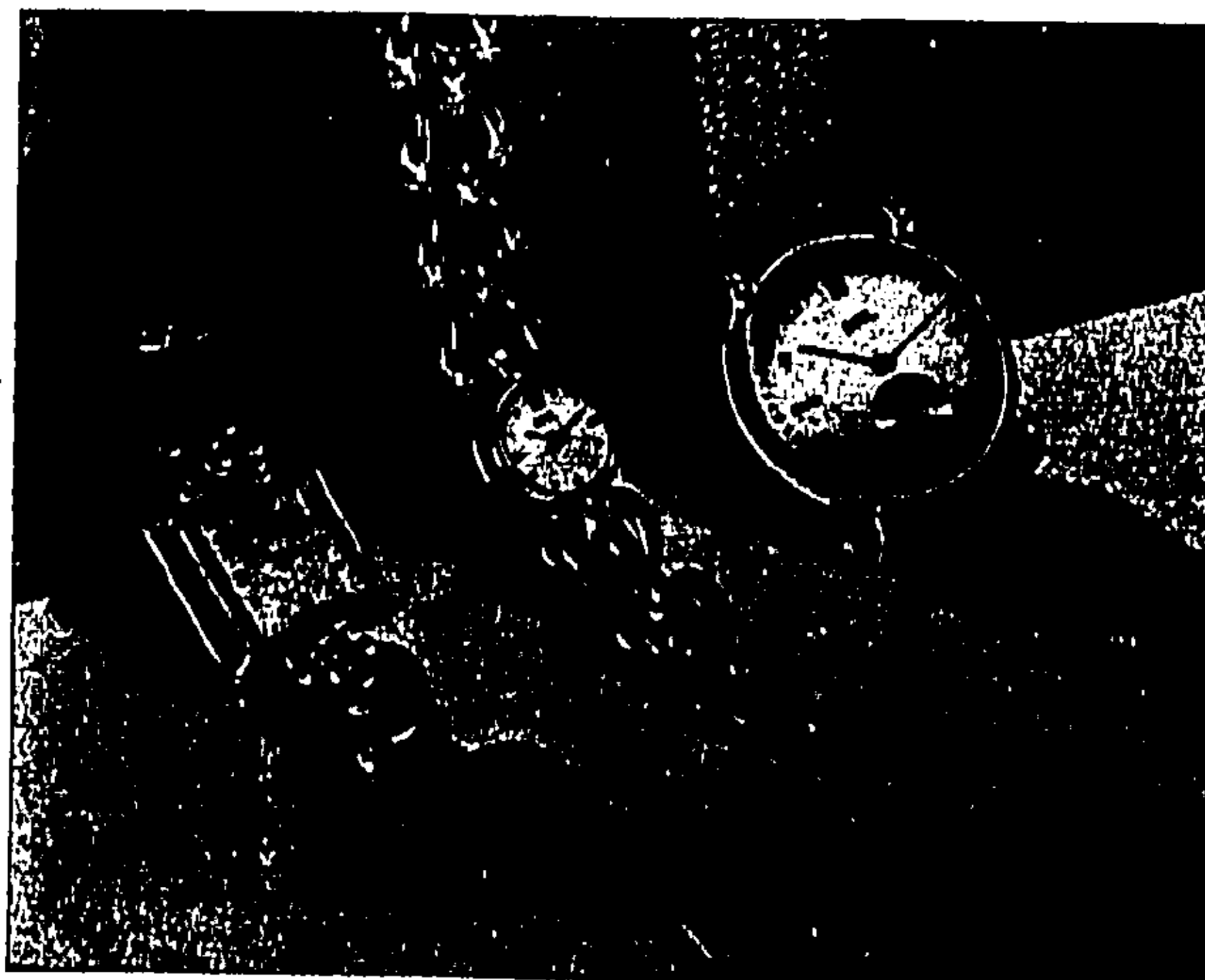
Major General Livesay declined to disclose the number of planes delivered but said they were flown from Germany to Athens by American fighter pilots.

"More planes are on the way," an authoritative source said. Greek Air Force cadets will shortly go to America for training. The Greek Air Force has hitherto been trained and equipped by Britain.—Reuter.

TOO MUCH WATER THERE

Melbourne, Feb. 5.
Melbourne water department officials have asked consumers to use more water. Heavy mid-summer rains have created a record storage of 19,032 million gallons.

Besides, says J. C. Jessop, chairman of the board, "We should like people to use more water now because we need the revenue in these days of high costs."—United Press.



SENNET FRERES

STOP

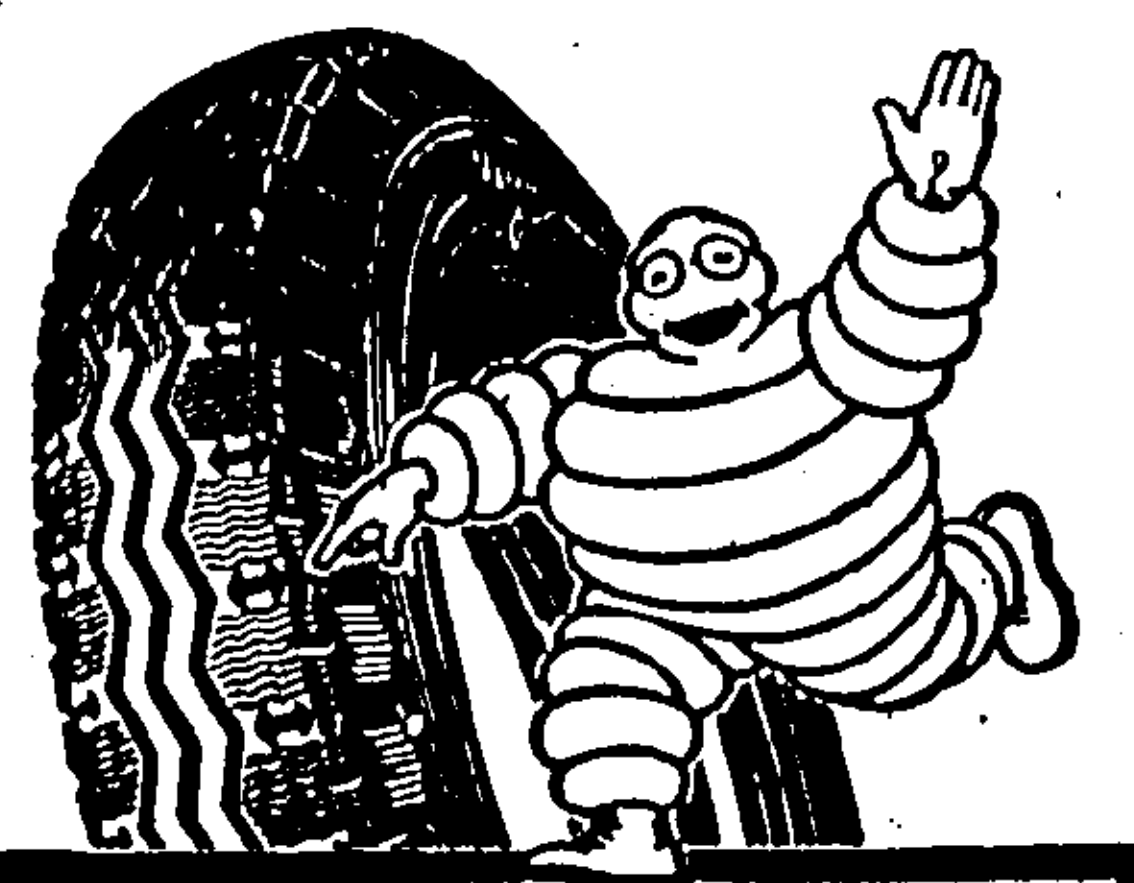
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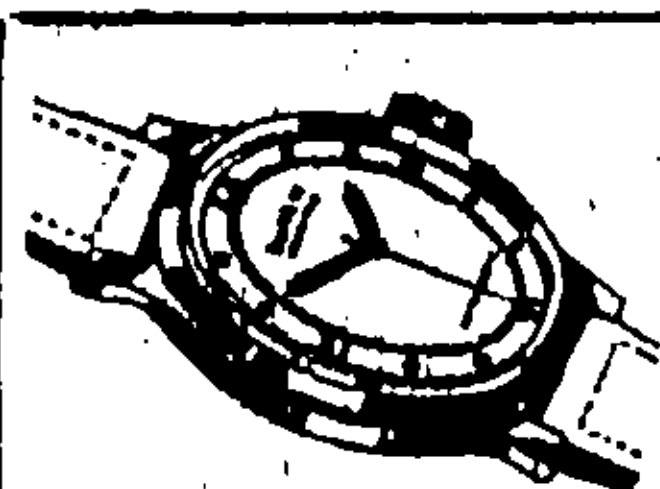


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'KWONG TUNG' INQUIRY

PASSENGER SAW SMOKE COMING FROM BASKET

That the bumping together of a basket and a bag carried by passengers in the ss "Kwong Tung" led to a liquid being spilled onto the deck which gave out white smoke, was the statement made by a passenger at yesterday's resumed inquiry into the panic on board the river vessel.

The same witness stated that shortly after the smoke, a fire started.

Mr. J. Jolly, Director of Marine and Marine Magistrate, presided, over the Court of Inquiry assisted by Lt. Commander J.P.B. Stirling (Royal Navy) and Captain W. Lumsden (Master Mariner).

The first witness yesterday, C.R.O. Siu Hing Yit of the Revenue Department, in answer to questions said that he was in charge of a party conducting searches on board.

He was responsible for searching the entire ship, and, should there still be time, to search the passengers' baggage.

He and his party arrived on board about 7.00 p.m. on the day of the first and shortly after they had entered the forward cargo hold he heard a shout of "Fire". He looked through the passageway to the aft cargo hold and saw a white glow.

He tried to go through the passageway but was prevented by the crowd coming through.

The crowd plank was "quite narrow" and while returning to the wharf he saw some people dropping into the water and started, with the aid of his men, to rescue them. He himself pulled three people out of the water. Answering questions, he said that he had often discovered dangerous goods amongst passengers' baggage.

Answering a question from Inspector Franklin witness said that although he had not got to the aft cargo hold he could see through the passageway that the place was crowded with passengers' baggage.

Mr. G. Y. Kwan (holding a watching brief for the charterers)—Is it your duty or rather the duty of Revenue Officers to search passengers' baggage?

Witness:—No. Further pressed witness replied that after searching the ship and if there were still time available they would search passengers' baggage.

Search For Arms

Inspector A.G. Groves, attached to the Water Front Searching Unit, said it was his duty to search the ship and passengers for arms. On the day in question he and his party of 12 men and two women entered the wharf at 3.00 p.m.

The ss. Kwong Sai, lying on the other side of the wharf, was scheduled to sail for Macao at 5.00 p.m. and it was these passengers that were allowed on to the wharf.

After the departure of the Kwong Sai he allowed the passengers of the Kwong Tung to enter, but at 6.45 p.m. he had to stop all passengers from entering in order to allow a number of drums of oil to leave the wharf.

At about 7.05 p.m. he heard Chinese call out "Fire" and immediately shouted to a few of his men and went to the aft hold. Glancing in, he saw flame shoot up on the starboard side of the ship.

He gave instructions to his men to phone the Fire Department while he himself went down to the ramp to try and control the passengers who had by then stampeded.

After two or three minutes the situation became calmer and smoke was seen to be coming out of the hold.

There were two other Chinese Revenue Officers assisting him in controlling the crowd.

The smoke was so dense that they were all forced back on the wharf. The smoke was of a whitish colour and seemed to come out in billows in the form of a fog.

After about 30 seconds the smoke cleared and they again went down to the ramp, when his attention was drawn by the Revenue Officers that many people had fallen into the water. With their assistance he effected a rescue and he himself rescued about eight.

About this time he saw Divisional Commander of the Fire Brigade at the top of the ramp assisting in rescue work. He also witnessed two R.O.'s pulling two women out of the water.

S.I. Jones of the Emergency Unit together with his men were seen pulling people out of the water at the forward part of the ship. Boarding the ship after all the excitement he found about 30

Escape Of Fritz Kuhn

MUNICH, FEB. 4. DODGING DACHAU CAMP GUARDS, FRITZ KUHN HEAD OF THE PRE-WAR NAZI ORGANISATION IN THE UNITED STATES, THE GERMAN-AMERICAN BUND ESCAPED FROM INTERMENT ON TUESDAY. THE BAVARIAN GOVERNMENT DISCLOSED TODAY.

United States and German police were hunting for him over a wide area tonight. German investigators were interviewing camp inmates while units of the American constabulary occupied the camp.

The United States Department of Justice ordered Kuhn to be deported from America in May, 1946, as an undesirable alien. He was repatriated to Germany, but was arrested on his arrival at Bremerhaven later that year, and released in April, 1946. He was arrested again in July, last year, under the denazification laws and sent to Dachau to await trial before a denazification court.

United States security officers of the local Military Government now in control at Dachau camp refused to comment on Kuhn's escape while the investigation was in progress.—Reuter.

Table Tennis Title

London, Feb. 4. The world table tennis championships opened at Wembley Pool today with an unusual incident—the invocation of the 20 minutes or "stonewalling rule" to the match between the former world champion, Trudi Fritzel, of Austria, and the American Max Cloutier, which Fritz won 21-13, 15-21, 18-7.

In the third game of the Corbillon Cup event for women, the two players patted the ball across the table, with neither attempting an attacking stroke and after 17 and a half minutes they were warned that they had a further two and a half minutes.

At the end of that time, Fritz was ahead and was awarded the game. This enabled Austria to level the match at two-all, but the United States won the deciding set.

Nearly 300 competitors from 25 nations will strive for the team and individual honours during the next eight days. The results were: Corbillon Cup for women's teams—England 3 Jersey 0; Rumania 3 Wales 0; Czechoslovakia 3 Luxembourg 0; Hungary 3 France 0; Ireland 3 Netherlands 1; Belgium 3 Scotland 1; United States 3 Austria 2; Egypt 3 Sweden 0.—Reuter.

moved to the mortuary, made up of 27 female adults and one male adult, two male children and a female child. Twenty-five bodies had been identified.

Thirty-three injured were sent to Queen Mary Hospital and Tung Wah Hospital, the majority of whom had been discharged.

Asked by the President if he saw any looting of passengers' baggage, Inspector Willerton said he suspected looting and therefore stopped all removal of baggage.

Dr. D.W. Gould of the Police Department, testified to receiving 31 dead bodies. Death in all cases was due to drowning. Apart from small abrasions in a few cases there was no sign of injury, and there is no sign of burning.

Last Witness

The last and twenty-second witness called was Mr. Thomas Edward Jackson, Asst. Director of Marine (Ship Survey), who said the "Kwong Tung" completed her last survey on July 21, 1947. She had a certificate allowing her to carry 700 passengers and 54 crew.

In reply to a question from the President, Mr. Jackson said that provided efficient gangways were in position whilst the ship was lying at the wharf, the means of egress from the main deck in an emergency were ample.

Damage to the vessel as a result of the fire, said Mr. Jackson, did not amount to more than \$10.

This concluded the evidence, and the Court adjourned to 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 7, for announcement of its findings.

Ship To Sail

After the Court rose Mr. C.Y. Kwan, on behalf of the charterers, obtained permission from the Director of Marine for release of the ship after all dangerous goods were cleared.

A notice in the Press today will ask all claimants of baggage to claim their belongings on the ship between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. today, after which any goods unclaimed will be removed to the Dangerous Goods Godown of the Import and Export Department, to await claimants.

Preparations are being made for the ship to sail for Canton this evening.

Hong Kong League Tables

The following are the Tables of the Hong Kong Football League:—

FIRST DIVISION										
	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.	A.	Pts.			
Chinese A.	19	10	0	9	72	29	32			
Chinese B.	19	10	0	9	40	27	28			
R. M. Bus.	18	13	1	4	69	31	27			
R. China	19	13	1	5	51	36	27			
Eastern	18	11	2	5	45	24	24			
Sing Tao	18	10	1	7	40	25	21			
Hongkong	19	7	3	9	52	61	17			
Huifai	19	8	0	11	63	63	16			
Club	19	6	0	13	30	34	15			
St. Joseph	19	6	1	12	43	62	15			
W. D. Chinese	19	7	3	9	40	25	14			
Kwong Wah	20	4	1	15	25	48	15			
Police	18	4	4	10	35	32	12			
R. A. F.	17	4	2	11	40	48	10			
Royal Navy	19	3	4	12	28	59	10			
24th B.A.	19	2	6	11	26	63	10			

SECOND DIVISION "A"										
	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.	A.	Pts.			
Royal Navy	16	10	0	6	83	16	20			
Eastern	15	12	1	2	55	12	28			
R. China	16	11	1	4	49	20	28			
Police	16	7	3	6	26	39	19			
R. M. Bus.	16	7	2	7	32	30	16			
Kit Chee	15	7	1	7	40	38	15			
St. Joseph	14	6	2	6	28	25	14			
W. D. Chinese	15	4	6	6	27	31	13			
H.K.F.C.	15	2	8	5	39	56	12			
Tai Koo	16	2	5	9	27	62	9			
R.A.O.C.	16	2	1	13	19	69	8			
24th B.A.	16	1	2	13	20	63	10			

SECOND DIVISION "B"										
	P.	W.	D.	L.	P.	A.	Pts.			
Chinese A.	13	11	1	1	60	14	23			
Sing Tao	12	9	3	0	64	11	21			
R. China	13	8	1	4	58	17	17			
24th B.A.	14	7	1	6	32	30	15			
Club	14	7	1	6	28	30	15			
Signals	15	6	0	9	52	35	15			
C. Cadets	13	5	5	3	30	32	13			
R.A.O.C.	15	5	0	10	41	37	12			
R.A.O.C.	15	5	0	10	38	48	10			
R.M.E.M.	15	3	2	10	18	44	8			
Electric	14	1	1	12	12	52	3			

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Shackleton Transfers

London, Feb. 4. At a fee believed to be £15,000, Len Shackleton, Newcastle, United's 24-year-old inside forward and England International during the war years, was today transferred to Sunderland. This figure ranks second only to the £20,000 paid last September to Chelsea by Nottingham for Tommy Lawton, England's centre forward.

Shackleton said tonight that he was very glad to be going into First Division football.—Reuter.

School Football League

The following is this week's soccer programme in the School Football League:—

SENIOR
Queen's v La Salle (Club, 10.30 a.m.)
Referee: R.M. Omar.

St. Paul's v St. Stephen's (Caroline Hill, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: Chan Tak Fai.

JUNIOR "A"
St. Stephen's v A.C.A.M. (Navy No. 1, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: Tsang King Hong.
Wanted A.M. v E.K.A.M. (Navy No. 1, 11.30 a.m.) Referee: F.A. Barretto.

St. Joseph's v St. Paul's (Navy No. 2, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: Au Young Shing.

JUNIOR "B"
A.C.P.M. v G.V.M.S. (Navy No. 2, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: A. Farmer.
N.T.C. v Waiwai P.M. (Army No. 1, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: Tam Kun.

E.K.P.M. v Wah Yan (Caroline Hill, 11.30 a.m.) Referee: Lai Shiu Wing.

JUNIOR "C" KOWLOON
Wah Yan v Mongkok (Police, 10.30 a.m.) Referee: M. Leung.

West Indies' Team For The Test

Port of Spain, Feb. 4. For the second Test against the Marylebone Cricket Club here starting on Feb. 11, the West Indies have nominated 14 players from whom the final choice will be made.

They are the 11 who played in the first Test at Barbados a fortnight ago with Lance Pierre, Kenneth Trestrail and Frank Worrell.

Doubts regarding the fitness of some of the players, notably George Headley, the West Indies Test captain, and P. Jones was presumed to be the reason for 14 players being named.

The 14 players are: G. Headley (Jamaica), R. Christiani (British Guiana), W. Ferguson (Trinidad), P. Jones (Trinidad), J. B. Stollmeyer (Trinidad), C. L. Walcott (Barbados), E. Weekes (Barbados), L. Williams (Trinidad), Kenneth Trestrail (Trinidad), and Frank Worrell (Jamaica).—Reuter.

Lightning Hit The Soccer Referee

London, Feb. 4. Stanley D. Cockayne, the first soccer referee to be struck by lightning, is to ask the Football Association to sanction bakelite whistles to prevent similar incidents.

He was struck when apparently about to award a penalty in a Wolverhampton Works League match played in a freak storm at Wolverhampton on Saturday.

As Cockayne raised his whistle towards his lips there was a flash of lightning. Anticipating a penalty the players stopped—but there was no sound from the referee's whistle. A flash of light seemed to come from Cockayne's hand and he stood motionless holding the whistle rigidly to his lips.

A player then ran up and took the whistle from his hand. Cockayne was dazed and had no recollection of what had happened and his arm seemed to jump and twitch.

He recovered after a few minutes and continued the game. But as he could not remember the incident for which the penalty was claimed, he had to "bully" the ball.

"All I remember was a vivid impression that my finger seemed on fire and I had a sensation of electricity running down my body," says Cockayne.—Reuter.

FIRE, BUT NO SMOKE?

A sheet of flame followed by a column of smoke sent the Fire Float on a wild-goose chase to Stonecutters Island at 11.30 a.m. yesterday.

It was reported that a call was relayed by the Fire Brigade to the effect that a ship was on fire near Stonecutters Island.

Five Soccer Players "Expelled"

Shanghai, Feb. 5. In an unprecedented move the Shanghai Athletic Federation today removed the remaining five Tsing Peh soccer players from the Shanghai Olympic probables and Interport team against Hong Kong.

The S.A.F. action was taken in reply to the quintette's threat to withdraw from the line-up if their team-mates N. Z. Lee and S. S. Nyl were not reinstated. The latter two were ousted from both the Interport and Olympic teams for failing to turn up for a trial match last Sunday.

The expelled Tsing Peh players were: G. Z. Woo, P. T. Kao, N. L. Meng, W. F. Jui, T. W. Fei. Their places will be taken by Sven Schultz, Novgorodoff, Gallunas, T. Z. Loh and L. K. Chang.

Earlier, the S.A.F. replaced Lee and Nyl with Tivonluk and Tan Kal-ban, a Malayan.—Reuter.

Naval Ships Off On Cruise

H.M.S. London, wearing the flag of the Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet will leave Hong Kong with H.M. Ships Cossack, Constance, Concord and Alert in company on Monday Feb. 23 for a cruise to ports in Malaya, British North Borneo, Borneo and the Philippines.

All ships will visit Saigon on Feb. 27, remaining there until Mar. 1. They will then proceed to Singapore, where the London, Constance and Alert will remain until Mar. 15.

They will then pay short visits to Lebanon (Brunei), Jesselton and Manila before returning to Hong Kong on April 1.

Cossack and Concord will leave Singapore on Mar. 10 for a cruise to Penang, Port Swettenham and Malacca. They will return to Singapore on Mar. 26 and leave on Apr. 3 for Miri, in Brunei, and Kudat, in North Borneo. H.M.S. Cossack will then proceed to Hilo and Concord to Subi, in the Philippines between Apr. 12 and 16.

H.M.S. Cossack and Concord will return to Hong Kong on Apr. 19. H.M.S. Sussex, wearing the flag of Rear Admiral R. D. Oliver C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C., will leave Hong Kong on Mar. 1 and visit Sandakan, in North Borneo between Mar. 4 and 8. She will then go to Singapore to refit.

On leaving Hong Kong on Feb. 23, the ships proceeding on the southern cruise will carry out tactical exercises with Sunn, Consort, Black Swan and Alacrity.

Badminton

Following are the results of the Men's Doubles League Badminton matches played on Monday:

Sing Tao beat Chinese Sanitary Inspectors, 9-0.
St. John's beat K.C.C. "B", 6-3.

V.R.C. lost to K.C.C. "A", 0-9.
St. Teresa's "B" beat Kowloon Dock 7-2.

Recreo "B" beat St. Teresa's A, 6-1.

The matches between Chung Wah and University "A", Kowloon Tong and Recreo "A" were postponed.

Results of the Men's Badminton Doubles League matches played on Wednesday:

Sing Tao beat University "A", 5-4.
St. John's beat Police, 7-2.
Chinese Sanitary Inspectors beat St. Teresa's "B", 7-2.

The matches between Chung Wah and Chinese Y.M.C.A., St. Mary's and St. Teresa's "A" were postponed.

Detailed scores of the match between Sing Tao and University "A" played on the Chinese Y.M.C.A. courts:

P. Wong and C. Au (Sing Tao) beat K.S. Low